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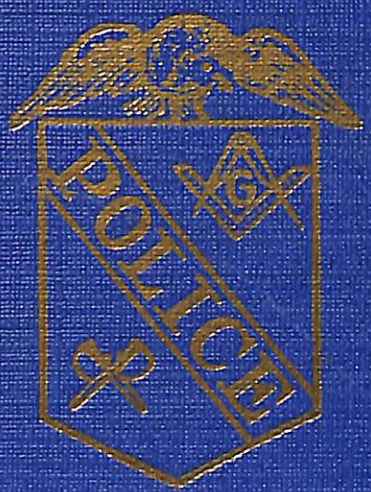

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Chief of Fitchburg Police Dept.

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Police Square Club of Massachusetts

President's Message

DEAR BROTHER MEMBERS:

Many matters that affect your life are out of your control. It would be very difficult for you—for any average American—to feel that he has anything approaching a controlling influence on general world affairs. Of course, each of us plays some part. Each of us in this free society of ours has the ability to assert himself in favor of the plan which he thinks will offer us the greatest promise of peace and the greatest security; but such affairs are national and international in their scope, and the individual must feel his influence is small.

Membership in a Fraternal Organization offers you many advantages for lasting friendships.

We can be thankful for the fine growth our Club has enjoyed and for the influence which an increasing membership gives us. Let us then offer thanks to Almighty God that this may continue, but my brothers, we must be on guard against that communistic activity which today is causing so much unrest and unhappiness. We must do our part to combat this evil before it encroaches on our democratic way of living. I know I can count on you to do your bit.

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation for the many happy moments I have had the honor of spending with you during my term as your President.

We trust that the coming year will prove to be a banner one for us all. Let us strive to ever go forward to new heights for the benefit of our country, our communities and our Association.

Fraternally,

CARLISLE F. TAYLOR,
PRESIDENT

JOHN C. NELSON

Captain Commanding, Stoneham Police Dept.

Secretary and Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Secretary's Message

WHAT IS FRATERNALISM? Perhaps you have already put that question to several of your brothers; perhaps you were impressed with the fact that no two of your fellow members gave you the same reply or definition. Each of them answered your question in his own way and probably felt his inability to do the subject justice.

Fraternalism is like that. Fellow members know what fraternalism is. They feel it, live it, experience it, and because they have come to recognize it as a fine, practicable, workable principle in their community and their daily walk through life, wish to be a true and active fraternal member.

Happiness is what all human beings really wish to acquire whether consciously or scientifically striving for it, or ignorantly and unconsciously groping after it.

Fraternalism requires regular attendance at your Club's meetings. This requirement is not a fad or idea of some enthusiast, but is based on sound experience. We should consider memberships and attendance of value at all times, because the officers are entitled to the presence of all members at all meetings. Through attendance at meetings a new member will come in contact with fellow members and gain an interpretation of its objects and come to realize its principles.

It is an unwritten rule in fraternalism that when a member is requested to serve on a Committee, that he accept his appointment willingly and that he does his best to serve with his fellow members.

My sincere thanks to all for their fine co-operation during the past year. It is my earnest wish that each and every one of you will give your wholehearted support to your Club so that we can go forward to greater heights and prove a benefit to all.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN C. NELSON,
Secretary

The Police Square Club

Perhaps the initial spark which kindled definite interest in the organization of a Police Square Club was struck at a "Police Night" gathering held 25 years ago at the rooms of the Boston Masonic Club, later to be known as the Boston Square & Compass Club on Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts. It was a gathering of considerable size, invitations having been sent out to all Masonic Officers in Boston and vicinity. As a result of this first preliminary assembly, an organizing committee was formed.

The second meeting followed eight days later at the same place and the date being April 23, 1923. The name "Police Square Club of Massachusetts" was adopted and a By-Laws Committee was appointed with Brother John A. Ray as chairman.

The following officers were elected: President, George A. Parker; 1st Vice President, Charles A. Kendall; 2nd Vice President, Frederick M. Ellis; 3rd Vice President, Ernest H. Bishop; Financial Secretary, Cecil V. Craig; Recording Secretary, Carleton B. Perry.

The meeting was sort of a family gathering. We were all more or less acquainted with each other, the room having been loaned to us through the kindness of Brother Masons of the East Boston Fraternity Club. Everybody seemed interested and a good deal of enthusiasm was expressed. Brother Waldo Hobart and other speakers addressed us and forthwith, we proceeded to make the Police Square Club of Massachusetts a reality. There were between forty and fifty police officers in attendance at this meeting. By the end of the same year the number of members had increased to approximately 140 and the 1924 roster showed 170 names.

This organization is one calculated to encourage and stimulate fraternal unity and helpfulness among Masons who are members of the Police Departments in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. There is a large field for usefulness among the Masons of the Police Departments and the splendid beginning made, argues well for the success of this worthwhile organization.

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"Takes Ballet Art to Direct Traffic"

BY EDWARD T. MARTIN

Winmill (even without the d) is an appropriate name for a traffic officer. Boston Traffic Officer Ivers E. Winmill spends the best part of every day imitating one.

Only he has but two arms. The conventional windmill has four. "I could use six here at the corner of School and Tremont streets," he maintains.

A conversation with a traffic cop while on duty is about as enlightening as chatting with a ping pong player during a semi-finals match. His movements are like a man walking barefoot across hot manhole covers. He uses more gestures than a ballet dancer and can adjust himself to as many situations as a Stilson wrench.

"What do you do all day?" we ask him.

"Besides answering foolish questions like that?" he comes back with. "Stick around and watch."

If you have driven a car through Boston, you know that Tremont and School streets is one of the busiest corners in the Hub. Into this section rolls all the traffic around town from Beacon street. Here it runs smack into traffic moving both ways on Tremont Street, across the city.

In the middle of this muddle is Winmill. Seven hours a day, when you subtract lunch time and two half-hour breaks. Seven hours of waving arms, blowing a whistle, and controlling his temper. "My toughest job," he says of the latter.

First spurt the office workers with three minutes to make the parking lots and get behind their desks. Then the late arrivals—the executives. In crescendo come the shoppers trying to drive as close to the bargain counters as possible. Later, along towards noon, truck traffic swells in volume. There is no modulation of taxicabs. They are thick all the time. Afternoons, the order reverses.

"At this corner, it's rush hour all day," contends Winmill.

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He flutters his arms at the long line of cars moving up from Scollay Square. "Close it up—close it up," he shouts. "Hi-ya Tony!" He recognizes a cab driver who goes whizzing by. He knows most of them by their first names.

"That's enough. Hey, fellow—hold it up." Wimmill stops the traffic moving up Tremont street and gives two or three quick flips of his white-gloved hand to the line of cars stretching back up Beacon street. Then he hops back out of their way.

"Not enough room to work in comfort on this corner," he remarks. He's adept at this daily dance of dodging drivers who edge too close to his blue serge trousers. Some motorists must believe a traffic officer's uniform is made of chamois cloth and find in him an opportunity to have the dust removed from their fenders.

Unlike other Boston traffic-movers, however, Wimmill has escaped a hipful of fenders. "Was hit only once," he recalls, "when a running-board cut a notch in my leg."

Out walks a middle-aged man, disregarding the zigzagging bumpers while drivers go into various stages of the St. Vitus dance to keep from "cutting him too short to sit down." He holds a parking lot stub in front of Wimmill and asks, "Can you tell me where my car is parked, officer?"

Wimmill grins as he recognizes the tag. "On Court street. First right off Tremont and a block down." Then he holds up traffic to allow the man to regain the safety of the sidewalk.

"Answering questions is an important part of our job," he points out. "Everybody asks us questions."

During the next 15 minutes he explained how to reach the United States Immigration Office, the Federal building, the Veterans Administration building, Somerset street, Massachusetts General Hospital, Court street, and the Army Recruiting Station.

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"These are O. K., but questions like 'How old is King's Chapel?' rattle me, sometimes."

Standing on one corner for two and one-half years builds many friends. "You get to know people who pass by the same time every day. And they get to know me."

"Hi-ya, Jerry." Jerry is a pedestrian.

"I like pedestrians," Winmill mentions. He hastily amends "not all of them, though."

He abruptly hurries across to the School street entrance of the Parker House and shoos away a car which has stopped in the middle of the street to allow a passenger to disembark. Meanwhile, a long line of stalled cars form in the rear, backing into Tremont street.

When traffic begins moving again he picks up where he left off. ". . . the way I figure it, everybody drives a car nowadays and actually most of us alternate every day between the roles of being a driver and a pedestrian.

"We lead two lives," he theorizes, "when we are on foot and when we are behind the wheel of a car. When we drive we curse the jaywalker who darts out in front of other drivers.

"Don't get me wrong. My pet peeve is not the jaywalker, but the deliberate jaywalker. The one who, when crossing on the pedestrian signals, takes his ripe and mellow time doing so right to the last step. He knows his rights, he knows all traffic must stop until he reaches the opposite side of the street, and he demands those rights down to the inch.

"Drivers, generally are co-operative. Most of them are alert and prevent accidents. The others are in a minority. The best drivers, of course, are the cabbies. They keep the lines closed up, double up the rows and move out fast when we give the signal."

But the cab drivers who stop in the line of traffic to unload or load passengers add 10 points to a traffic officer's blood pres

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sure. "Add another 10 points for the pedestrian who walks into the centre of the street to ask us a question, ties up traffic both ways."

Winmill though 41 years old can easily pass for a man in his 20's. He hustles his six-foot frame down over the front steps of his Roslindale home every morning at 7, after a warning to "watch out crossing the streets"—a daily reminder from his wife and two sons, ages 7 and 9—and commutes by subway to the Milk Street police station, traffic division. Here he answers roll call at 7:45 o'clock before he walks up to his post in time to meet the "Hubcap Parade."

Nine of his 11 years with the force have been on assignment to the Boston traffic division. He has worked all the corners in Boston at one time or another.

How come a traffic officer is needed at intersections equipped with signal lights?

Winmill explained this after a shouted "Watch your step, Pop," to an elderly man who started to move against the traffic flow."

"Drivers need moral support. When we are out here hurrying them on, the line doesn't back up on us, because of the lights. When the flow is heavy, we can move them through the red lights, but never through the pedestrian signals. We also regulate the turns, giving the guy who wants to swing down School Street for instance, a break."

On the matter of breaks, the weather this winter hasn't been particularly kind to out-of-door workers, especially to traffic officers. Their feet get colder than the tip of a whale's nose, their ears are the color of uncooked sirloin and about as raw.

But now revealed "for the first time anywhere" is the secret weapon Winmill and his pironetting pals used as bulwark against the back-frosting blasts of Boston's worst weather in years.

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ALBION R. AUGUSTA

Patrolman, Boston Police Dept.

Treasurer

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ALBION R. AUGUSTA

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* *

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His efforts have not been confined to Metropolitan Boston but have extended to many cities and towns throughout the state.

Thanks, Albion, for your helpful hand in time of trouble!

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"From Scrub Girl to Judge"

Tears welled in the young girl's eyes.

Her knuckles were white as she gripped the mop.

She wanted to scream but she knew she didn't dare.

The judge sitting on the bench at the front of the courtroom would have her fired.

Thirteen-year-old Jennie Loitman, scrub girl in the Suffolk Superior Court in Boston, had just heard a gruff judge pass sentence on a bewildered young mother, found guilty of murdering her husband.

"Twenty years—twenty years in the reformatory," the judge had pronounced.

The scrub girl, daughter of poor immigrant parents, wanted to scream in protest:

"No, you can't send that woman away. She killed her husband, but she did it because he wanted to destroy their newborn child. How could you be so unjust?"

But Jennie Loitman kept her silence.

Instead she made a vow. Some day she would become a judge. How she did not know.

She wasn't even certain of going to high school.

But somehow she knew that she would become a judge and administer true justice.

When she told friends at a Boston shoe factory, where she also worked, of her plans, they scoffed:

"You a judge! A scrub girl wanting to be a judge. Just try it and see what happens."

Twelve years almost to the day of the courtroom episode, Jennie Loitman had her law degree from the Boston University Law School.

Today she is Judge Jennie Loitman Barron, the first and only full-time woman judge in the history of her native Massa

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chusetts, and wife of Samuel Barron, prominent attorney and Boston bank president.

Now a grandmother, she has been a successful lawyer, member and treasurer of the Boston school committee, and assistant attorney general of Massachusetts.

But the way from scrub girl to judgeship was not easy.

It meant hours of study, hours of work, disappointmem and frequently despair.

When Jennie Loitman made her vow to become a judge, women could not vote.

After finishing high school she set about doing everything she could to correct that injustice.

At 16 in Boston's West End where she was born, the former scrub girl began her own crusade for equal rights for women.

Within a few months men by the hundreds gathered on historic Boston Commons to hear the girl's flaming speeches for suffrage and equal job rights.

They called her names and sometimes threw fruit and eggs —but they also listened.

"Denying a woman the right to vote is one of the great injustices of our times," she told them.

"When women have the right to vote, better men will be chosen for public office."

Once a drunkard elbowed his way through the crowd and called her vile names.

Jennie Loitman studied the man for a moment, then shouted to her audience:

"That drunk may vote, but your own mother can't."

A wild cheer went up.

The young woman organized suffragette groups throughout New England, especially among college students, and soon

CECIL E. LEWIS

Lieutenant, Boston Police Dept.

First Vice-President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

attracted the attention of Carrie Chapman Catt and Anna Howard Shadow, national leaders in the fight.

Barely 18 at the time, Miss Loitman was called to New York to stump the state prior to a referendum on women voting.

Her untiring efforts won thousands to the cause.

On the night of the election many of the workers were gathered in a small hall awaiting the returns.

"We were huddled together, praying silently," Judge Barron recalled.

"The room was cold and we were all afraid to hear the results. Then a woman rushed into the room and shouted 'We won—we won. Women may vote.'"

While others cheered and laughed, Jennie Loitman wept.

"America must have equal rights in all fields to make this a great nation," she told her jubilant friends. "Our work has just begun."

While continuing her fight for women's rights, Miss Loitman kept up her law studies and in 1914 she finally passed the Massachusetts State Bar.

Her career as a lawyer was marked with success but more with kindness and understanding for those in trouble.

Once she was defending a man charged with murder. The death had occurred during a fight which followed an argument over the defendant's wife.

Attorney Loitman grew panicky as the day of the trial neared and called in a man attorney to help her with the case.

"I didn't think I had enough experience to handle it," she admitted some time later.

"You've got to make the jury believe this man's story," she told her fellow attorney. "He's innocent. I know it."

But when her associate stepped before the jury his plea was weak and his arguments even weaker.

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Desperate, Jennie Loitman arose and asked the judge for the right to address the jury. The right was granted.

"If there is a man on this jury who wouldn't fight another who boasts of disgracing his wife, then let him send this innocent man to the electric chair," she began.

Quietly, understandingly, she told the jury of the years of mental torture suffered by the defendant she represented.

When she finished the courtroom was tense with emotion. The judge made his final charge and the jury filed out.

Jennie Loitman nervously settled herself for a long wait.

But within a few minutes the jury returned and the foreman arose and read the verdict:

"Not guilty."

Miss Loitman could hardly keep from shouting.

The years rolled by and Jennie, married and her success assured, nevertheless almost despaired of ever attaining her goal—the judgeship.

In 1937 the call finally came.

The voice on the other end of the telephone said:

"Mrs. Barron, will you accept an appointment to the bench of the Boston Municipal Court?"

There was no hesitation. Jennie Loitman Barron, the former scrub girl, said yes she would accept.

In her ten years as Justice of the Boston Municipal Court, Judge Barron never has sent a criminal away without personally investigating all the facts in the case.

When she does have to imprison a defendant she investigates the background of the person and then decides which institution will do the most toward rehabilitation.

Only once has a decision handed down by Judge Barron been reversed by a higher court—a tribute to the judicial administration of the daughter of immigrant parents who never lost sight of the goal set when she saw an injustice done to an innocent person.

CLINTON A. HEITMAN

Sergeant, Brookline Police Dept.

Second Vice-President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Wiles of "Count Lustig"

BY HARRY GRAY

Three Secret Service agents recently stood before a table in the New York office of Assistant U. S. Attorney Peter J. Donoghue. Seventeen counterfeit Federal Reserve bills were spread before them.

"Those bills are the work of 'Count' Victor Lustig, King Con Man of the world," the agents told Donoghue. "They are of superior quality and almost undetectable. The plates were made by William Watts, Lustig's master engraver. We do not know how many bills still may be in circulation. We have picked up $2,340,000 he and his agents made and passed."

Although he has been a prisoner in Alcatraz for 10 years, Lustig's trail still plagues Federal officers.

With Chesterfieldian manners, faultless dress, limousine and chauffeur, he made dupes of bankers, politicians and various women to whom he was irresistible. His guile even enabled him to transform into a counterfeiter one officer who arrested him.

Lustig made and sold money-making machines. They were small black boxes into which blank strips of paper were fed. A crank turned and $20 bills were supposed to come out. They did come out when, for demonstration, Lustig stuffed the boxes with good bills. A Los Angeles banker, who paid him $100,000 for one machine, later said:

"I don't know how I could have done it. When Lustig talked, I was unable to resist."

Lustig was an Austrian who came to this country after a career of forgery in Paris. He gave himself the title of Count. He went to Philadelphia and became a spectacular figure in night life. His charm won him Billie Mae Scheible, wealthy underworld figure.

Billie was no novice to smart trickery, but the "Count's" spell dissolved her caution. After a romantic evening he told her of his machine.

"I'll let you have one for $25,000, just what it cost to make," he said.

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He showed her the box. He ground out five $20 bills. He then took her to a bank where a teller readily exchanged them for a $100 bill. Billie bought the box for $25,000.

When she got home and could grind out only blank paper, she put a revolver in her handbag and traced Lustig to a Philadelphia hotel.

Lustig saw death in her eye as he faced her revolver.

"Why, dearest," he said, smiling and unperturbed, "you didn't think I'd rob you, did you? I was showing you how I take real suckers."

Billie was in his arms in a moment.

Lustig's next operation was his masterpiece. He persuaded an onion grower, Joseph Rosenblum, in Corpus Christi, Texas, to part with $50,000 for a package supposedly containing $100,000 in hot Liberty Bonds.

When Rosenblum opened the package, it contained only scrap paper. He had Lustig put in jail. Sheriff Q. R. Miller made the arrest.

Sheriff Miller, who also was county tax collector, was a genial soul; and Lustig, while he was awaiting prosecution, turned on the charm.

The prisoner talked of his marvelous money-making machine. The sheriff was interested, for he was short a few thousand dollars in county funds. Lustig agreed to sell him a machine for $25,000.

In exchange for $25,000 in county funds, Miller received a baggage check for a suitcase and let Lustig escape. The suitcase contained a worthless box.

Miller was a two-gun man. Facing ruin, he didn't weep. He ran Lustig down in a Chicago hotel. Guns out, he demanded the $25,000 or else.

"I'd have more sense than to think I could get away with robbing a smart sheriff," Lustig said. "I needed money for a big deal that will make millions."

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Lustig fabricated a plan for a huge counterfeit haul.

"If you'll go back to Texas and get $65,000, we'll open the counterfeit plant. We have to pay the engraver."

Hoping to escape embezzlement charges, the sheriff did just that.

Meanwhile, Lustig through Capone sources had located William Watts, an engraver. Lustig had him run off $100,000 and gave it to the sheriff.

Miller went straight to his bank and deposited five bills to his account. The teller informed the bank president the bills were phony. Miller was arrested and the balance of the $100,000 was found in his home. An audit of his books showed him $100,000 short in tax money.

Sheriff Miller refused to aid in running down Lustig, saying he wanted "to attend to that angle himself when he had served his sentence."

With a process they developed for simulating the silk thread in the paper used for bills, Lustig and Watts were running off hundreds of thousands of dollars in 20's, 50's and 100's.

Then Lustig made a fatal slip.

Watts had a flashy young wife who was impressed by Lustig and when Lustig left on a business trip to New York, she joined him there. Watts was broken-hearted.

The Federal net finally located Watts, who, in revenge, helped them locate Lustig. Lustig was tried in New York in 1936 and sentenced to prison for 20 years. Watts got 10.

But Secret Service agents continue to find bills of their make—so good they passed countless inspections.

CHARLES W. HEWITT

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

Third Vice-President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Guardians of The Sleeping Guest

BY BOOTON HERNDON

Loud, masculine laughter and the clink of glasses came over the transom to Elsie Kukit as she walked down the hotel corridor, cleaning mop in hand. She grinned—those people sure were having a good time.

Then the grin faded from Elsie's face. Mingled with the racket were the cries of a baby.

That's when Elsie made the decision that placed her among the heroines who have worn the uniform of a hotel maid. She knew that guests don't like maids charging into their rooms; she also knew that somebody's baby needed a woman's care.

Elsie entered the room, cloudy with cigarette smoke. A year-old baby girl was threshing about on the floor, unnoticed by several men who were drinking and playing cards. Before she reached the baby, one of the men grabbed her and tried to pull her on his lap. She broke away and ran into the hall.

It was the Hotel Copley Plaza in Boston, and Elsie knew the hotel didn't want that type of guests. She was on the way to call the manager, when the drunken laughter of the men turned to loud screams. Elsie wheeled and ran back.

The bedding was on fire, and the men were running in panic from the room. Not one of them remembered the baby. Elsie went in and, although the flames licked at her legs and she could hardly breathe, she didn't come out until the baby was in her arms.

Another maid, Della Whalen, became a heroine in the same hotel. She overheard a wealthy Back Bay socialite accusing a bellhop of stealing a diamond clip. Della knew the boy, and knew that he was completely honest—but what could she, a maid, do about it?

Plenty. Della turned detective.

It was the third valuable reported missing in a week and, with nothing but feminine intuition to go on, she suspected a trio of men who had recently moved in. The maid's better judgment warned her against such a drastic step, but she let herself into their room and looked around.

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While she was searching their luggage, she heard a key in the lock. She dashed to the closet and hid. At first she was afraid the men would find her and she would lose her job. Her fear became terror when she heard them talking about the jewelry they had stolen and realized that they were hardened criminals.

For three hours Della crouched in the closet. Finally the men left and Della went to the bureau drawer where they'd agreed to leave the jewels. The loot was there and she turned it over to the manager.

Della was praised for her daring, but the biggest thrill came when the socialite humbly apologized to the bellboy.

Miss Elizabeth Frank, a housekeeper in the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City, had a guest who heard crickets. That was what he said—he heard crickets.

Miss Frank went over every inch of the room, even going so far as to change the mattress and the springs. Still the man heard the cricket chirping at night. Finally Miss Frank went up to him one afternoon.

"I found the cricket this morning," she said, "it was a big one, too."

"Gosh, thanks," said the man, never suspecting that she had made up the whole story. "Now maybe I'll get some sleep." He did, too.

Helen Findley, for 30 years a maid at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago, makes a habit of listening for odd sounds. Once she heard a feeble moan coming from a room. She opened the door with her passkey.

A man lay on the bed, unconscious. Scattered around the room were 10 empty bottles which had held gin. Helen dashed to the phone, called for the house physician, and for a pitcher of tomato juice. The tomato juice got there first and she forced it down the unconscious man's throat. When the doctor came, he said she had done the right thing.

The guest, a visitor to America from Scotland, recovered and gave Helen five dollars.

ARCHIBALD MACLENNAN

Patrolman, Metropolitan District Police Dept.

Past President and Auditor

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Just as Helen has trained her ears to hear the slightest sound, Hannah Lindberg, of the Hotel Mark Hopkins in San Francisco, has learned to follow her hunches.

One night, coming off duty, she heard a couple of employees talking about the man in Room 1260. He was already under the weather, they said, but he wouldn't stop drinking. Hannah went straight to Room 1260.

Smoke engulfed her as she opened the door. Flames were eating along the rug toward the draperies, and the chair the unconscious man was in, was already smouldering.

The slim Scandinavian girl dragged him out of there in the nick of time.

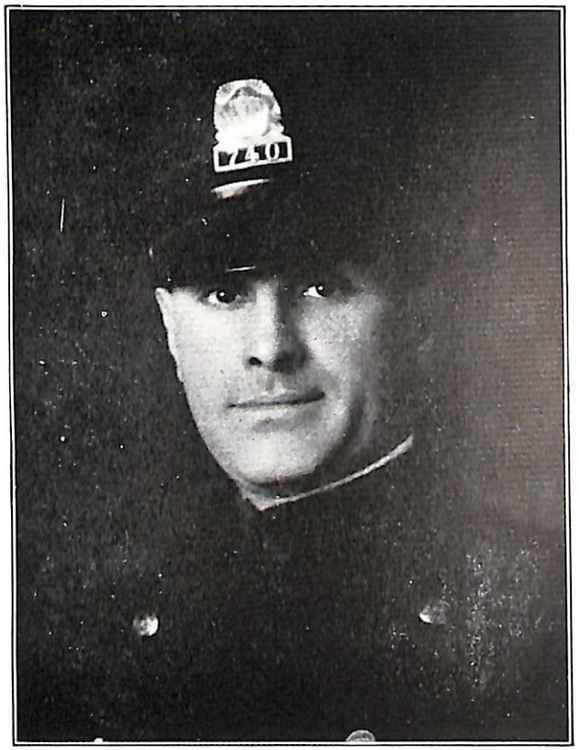
Elaine Cain, jolly Negro maid who mothers the guests at the Hotel St. Francis in San Francisco, gives charity every penny she gets in tips.

Once a guest, taken suddenly ill, returned to his home across the bay in Berkeley. After hours every night, Elaine went to his house to prepare his dinner. His health failed to improve, so the hotel maid took a leave of absence and tended him night and day.

Nazli, Queen Mother of Egypt, was ill when she arrived at the hotel. Elaine was the only member of the staff permitted in the suite. When the Queen Mother left, she said:

"If it hadn't been for Elaine, I'd never have gotten well."

Elaine chuckled her thanks, but she was listening with only half an ear. The jolly maid was already looking forward to the next guest upon whom she could lavish her store of human kindness.



JOSEPH CELATA

Patrolman, Boston Police Dept.
Past President and Board of Directors
Police Square Club of Massachusetts

The Too-Good Lady of The Parsonage

BY CHARLES GODDARD

It was just like one of those mystery dramas where the villain turns out to be the most irreproachable member of the cast.

But this was in real life and perhaps British detectives don't see enough movies—anyhow, not until they had eliminated almost everyone else in the little community of Lostwithiel in Cornwall, England, did they think of pinning a series of jewelry thefts on the Methodist minister's saintly wife.

Ethel Ellen, 49-year-old wife of the Reverend W. G. Carty, was a thoroughly good woman, as even the meanest gossip would not deny, yet that was the clue, according to expert medical testimony at the hearing.

She was too good, "unco guid," the Scotch call it. As a minister's wife, Mrs. Carty not only obeyed the ten commandments but felt it her duty to have no vices, including vanity and that one, the mind experts said, was the cause of her undoing.

As a pretty, young bride, eager to do right, she used neither lipstick nor rouge which nobody noticed because minister's wives, in those days, did not "paint".

However, it was remarked that she never wore jewelry except her plain, gold wedding ring. When asked about this she would laugh it off.

"How would a parson's wife, in a hamlet like this, have money for jewelry? And, if I ever do, I have more important extravagances in mind."

Had she boasted that the sacrifice was a virtue, this too would have been vanity. Her husband knew the truth but only half of it, for he had seen her wearing jewels before she married him and regretted her hiding away the modest engagement solitaire he had gone without lunches to buy but little dreamed the struggle it was costing her to suppress the vanity vice.

Still everyone has some sort of temptation to resist, some sort of inward struggle, and all went well.

Ethel presented her husband with a boy and saw to it that he grew up to set an example to the boys of all Cornwall, as she did to the Cornish women and she found time to help her husband in his parish duties.

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All this took a lot out of her but she was a healthy woman and had it to give, until the second war added new strains.

Her good boy went off to the front, but so did precious sons of other mothers, often several from one family, so she said, "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth" and set an example of cheerfulness, pointing out that Cornwall, having little in the way of war industry, the Germans did not bother to bomb it, so the little children were safe. Alas, in wartime nothing seems to be an unmixed blessing.

Cornwall's immunity caused children to be shipped there from London and other bomb targets, until Lostwithiel swarmed with unhappy youngsters, running in and out of its homes, screaming and slamming doors, especially the parsonage, forcing the minister to go out into the woods to write his sermons, but Ethel had no such respite.

Hers was the duty of advising homesick, little incorrigibles and how to make them behave.

"I used to love children," some of the exasperated foster mothers told her, "but this is beyond human endurance."

The same thought had come to Ethel, but it was a wicked, unmotherly one, so she banished it from her mind, or so she supposed.

"Look how God permits Hitler, wickedest man in the world, to triumph everywhere," the women whispered. "What's the use of being good?"

"Blood, sweat and tears—but victory," answered a great voice that made the British bulldog hang on in its darkest hour.

None was more serene outwardly or more confident than the minister's wife, but somewhere along the line, the last straw had been laid on her back—too many conflicts had been banished from her conscious mind.

The breakout came in the most unexpected place, the mind cell where the vice of vanity had been imprisoned during all her married life.

About four years ago, bits of jewelry began disappearing in Lostwithiel. At first these were thought to have been mislaid until it happened too often for such an explanation.

HAROLD F. PICK

Sergeant, Arlington Police Dept.
Chairman, Board of Directors
Police Square Club of Massachusetts

All the victims, being friends of the minister's wife, came to her for counsel, but were not greatly surprised that a woman who cared nothing for such gauds showed small interest when there were so many life-and-death problems to be solved.

For the same reason they did not bother the authorities during the war, nor for some time after, until a few months ago when the situation became intolerable. Someone among these good friends and honest neighbors was a thief and suspicion pointed from one to another until all agreed that the law must be called in.

Constable Kendall quickly realized that it was a strange case.

The total losses, reported over more than three years, added up to the ridiculously small value of 130 pounds, roughly $520. No professional thief would bother with such trifles; also all victims were certain that no stranger had been around, nor could a sneak thief have gotten in.

It had to be one of their own circle of tried-and-true friends or one of their children. This last was borne out by the theft of a purse containing an amount less than $1.75 from a Mrs. Pedlar, which caused her nine-year-old son to be looked into among the first.

Not until all had been investigated and cleared, did Constable Kendall turn reluctant eyes upon the saintly woman who had no use for such trinkets and the rest was easy. Some jewels were planted in a drawer of the Pedlar home and things arranged for Mrs. Carty to have a chance to steal them.

She walked into the trap, confessed not only that theft but all the others, returning all of the pitiful loot from hiding places in the parsonage. Ethel said she did not know what made her do it, but that she deserved the full punishment of the law.

The court did not concur. After hearing medical testimony that she suffered from kleptomania, due to the equivalent of battle fatigue, the Magistrate of Tywardreath Court bound her over for three years, much the same as in the United States would be called "putting her on probation."

Looking at her good boy, still in service and home on furlough from the Middle East, the court said:

"I think she has been punished enough."

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Fascinating Phonies

BY DAN PARKER

The softest touch of all the grifts operated by those who believe the world owes them a living is the pleasant dodge of impersonating a sports celebrity and the bigger they are, the harder they fall for this con game.

This was proved not long ago in New York's Night Court when Magistrate Charles Murphy dismissed a charge of disorderly conduct against a Bowery no-good claiming to be Rube Marquard, the former major league pitching star—and then handed the derelict $5 out of sympathy.

When the real Marquard, a highly respectable family man who works as a pari-mutuel ticket seller at race tracks, read about "his plight" next morning he hit the ceiling.

But good-natured Rube had the last laugh when the faking toper, who had been keeping well lubricated for months on the Bowery by impersonating him, was picked up in Hoboken, N. J., next day, blinder than a bat.

This time, the judge said: "I won't give you five—I'll make it ten—ten days in Hudson County Jail."

A Chicago Police Court judge was almost taken over in a similar case back in 1929.

'Twas Christmas Eve and the magistrate radiated good will to men as he took his seat behind the bench.

One bedraggled fellow with a mournful look on his face sobbed as he confronted the judge and mumbled something about having seen better days. He was asked to explain.

"I was once a great ball player," replied the dipsomaniac, dramatically. "You've no doubt heard of me—Danny Murphy of the Athletics."

Judge Samuel Keller was so moved by the drunk's story that he said: "I am going to see that you have a real Christmas tomorrow. Go back to your cell tonight and sober up. Tomorrow you'll eat turkey." With that the kindly judge slipped the man $25 and ordered him released next morning.

It was such a nice little human interest story for Christmas Eve that the wire services sent it all over the country. Among

CHRISTOPHER M. GARLAND

Patrolman, Braintree Police Dept.

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

those who read it was the real Danny Murphy, then a prosperous real estate man. Danney wired Judge Keller that the Chicago souse was a faker.

Frank Erne, former lightweight champion, read of his death in a California automobile accident about a year ago and refused to believe it, for the good reason that he was in New York. It developed that Erne had been impersonated for years in California by a man who had memorized his ring record perfectly.

Harlem Tommy Murphy is one of the few sports celebrities who profited from being impersonated. About 15 years ago, two rival breweries in Panama were in a patronage war.

One of them was backing a popular cabaret run by an American named Mike Flaherty. The other brewery countered by importing from the States a man who represented himself as Harlem Tommy Murphy.

This chap, a personable fellow, said his real name was Tommy Marlowe, but that he had adopted Murphy as a ring name. The customers flocked to his bar and gulped his backer's beer while he regaled them with stories of his fights.

Flaherty, meantime, had become suspicious of Marlowe and wrote a New York sports editor inquiring as to Harlem Tommy Murphy.

The sports editor informed him that Murphy was at that moment employed as boxing instructor by the Brooklyn Lodge of Elks and had never been in Panama in his life.

Flaherty announced this to the Panama papers which printed it—along with a statement from Marlowe that his rivals were confusing him with Brooklyn Tommy Sullivan.

More cables to New York and more replies that Harlem Tommy Murphy, himself in person, was in Brooklyn. Would he consent to go to Panama, all expenses paid? He would.

Tommy Murphy sailed in style for Panama, on his first vacation in years, with all expenses paid. Tommy Marlowe read this and smiled.

"He doesn't dare face me because he knows I'll expose him," Marlowe said with a cocky smile.

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On the day Murphy was due, Marlowe was on the job, dispensing the same old smiles and brew to the faithful customers who thought the stories about Murphy's impending arrival were "planted" by Mike Flaherty.

When the blast of a steamer whistle notified all that the boat had arrived at last, Marlowe excused himself to his customers, saying: "I have to go in the back room, and change clothes so I can go down to the dock and meet this faker in style."

With that, Tommy Marlowe walked out the back door—and Panama hasn't seen or heard from him since. Harlem Tommy Murphy was feted as a hero for a fortnight.

One of the strangest cases of impersonation on record was exposed in 1942 with the death of a bartender named Jack Burke, in Plainfield, N. J. For years, Burke was one of the few celebrities Plainfield folk could point out to visitors.

"He's the chap who fought the longest bout on record with boxing gloves," they'd say. "You know, the Jack Burke-Andy Bowen bout in New Orleans back in 1893 that was stopped at the end of 110 rounds and called a draw because both were exhausted."

Bartender Burke never did anyone any harm and he wasn't a panhandler. All he did was blush modestly and admit it was true when people asked him about it.

When Burke died on Feb. 14, 1942, sports editors sent for the newspaper clips on the Burke-Bowen fight to refresh their memories before writing the obit. What they found astounded them.

If the Jack Burke who died in Plainfield was 63, as the dispatches from there said, he would have been 14 when he fought that gruelling 110-rounder in New Orleans. A correction from Plainfield stating that Jack was 67, not 63, reassured them—until they read in yellowed clippings describing the fight, that Burke was 33 years old when he met Bowen and was a native of Texas. Plainfield's Jack Burke was born in Elmira, N. Y.

A few days later other clippings were discovered which told of the death of Jack Burke, hero of the New Orleans battle, in Mt. Carmel, Pa., on May 15, 1939. By this time, Plainfield people, who had sworn by their Jack Burke up to that point, admitted sheepishly that they had been taken over but insisted "he was a good fellow, nevertheless."

LEONARD A. ANDREWS

Chief, Manchester Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

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From the Scriptures we are told,
If by its gain be later hurled
To 'hell'' and lose his soul?

What profits man to lose a friend
For selfish gain or greed,
Not knowing when he may depend
On him in time of need?

No friends are bought with silver or gold,
That never works out in the end,
No money can buy, for it's never sold,
True friendship and a friend.

And it's not what we say, so much as the way
We live, that makes this true,
It's in doing by others day by day
As ye would have them do by you.

Then, God, let me live by the ''Side of the Road''
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"Fall of The Opium Queen"

BY RAY RICHARDS AND BOOTON HERNDON

To the citizens of Guadalajara, the Senora is the maker of the best tortillas in the entire Mexican state of Jalisco.

They know that, as they munch her delicious Mexican pancakes during the evening promenade, and that is all they care to know.

The agents of two countries, however, who keep a wary eye, day and night, on this Mexican woman who busies herself quietly in her little kitchen, know much more.

Both the United States Narcotic Service and the Mexican Government are interested in much more than tortillas when it comes to the Senora.

They remember when, not so long ago, she was the leader of one of the biggest dope rings ever to operate in North America.

The people of Guadalajara know her as Senora Ignacia Jasso de Gonzales. Government agents know her as "La Nacha," once the sole owner of the only plantation planted exclusively in opium-bearing poppies in Mexico.

It took agents of both countries a long time to catch her, because no one dreamed that poppies could be grown to such an extent in Mexico.

No one ever dreamed that this woman, widow of a small-time bandit, could be the leader of an organization which turned out, and distributed, a remarkably pure grade of morphine.

La Nacha, which means "pug-nose," surrounded herself with experts. There was the man known as The Chemist, who extracted the finest morphine from inferior opium.

Among others in the band were The Lawyer, The Merchant, and The Old Woman.

This well-organized group was responsible for the flood of morphine which came across the border to satisfy the cravings of drug addicts in America, and to start innocents on the road to ruin.

HARRY R. STANFIELD

Patrolman, Brookline Police Dept.

(Retired)

Board of Directors

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

As far away as Seattle and New York her morphine appeared. The chemists identified the small amounts captured occasionally as being made in the same laboratory from the same opium.

Occasionally runners were caught crossing the border, but the big shipments and the big operators always escaped.

The war came along, and La Nacha set herself up as a patriotic figure in the Calle Diablo—Street of the Devil—in Juarez, across the border from El Paso, Texas.

She fed the soldiers, both Mexican and American, her finest tortillas, because, she said, she had devoted her life to raising their morale.

Yet too many soldiers were found, stupefied with morphine, in the back streets of Juarez.

The dope habit was raising abnormally throughout the United States, too. Desperate measures had to be taken. Harold B. Westover and W. H. Crook, agents of the Narcotic Service, were chosen from volunteers to go to that rumored plantation far to the south, track down the gang.

Westover, posing as a big-time operator, finally met The Merchant, La Nacha's chief of sales. In time he found himself in the rooms of La Nacha herself. She told him he could have morphine in any quantity he desired.

He offered to buy $50,000 worth, but specified that she take it over the border herself. At first she refused, but then suddenly agreed.

Then she played right into his hands by asking him to bring the morphine himself from the plantation to Juarez. Westover brought in Crook, and La Nacha assigned two thugs to escort them to Jalisco, 800 miles south.

The trip was worth it, though, when they looked over the hidden fields of poppies, and met The Chemist and The Lawyer. They got the morphine and proceeded back to Juarez.

Then La Nacha's lieutenants proposed a double cross. Skip La Nacha, they said, and the buyers would save $2,000.

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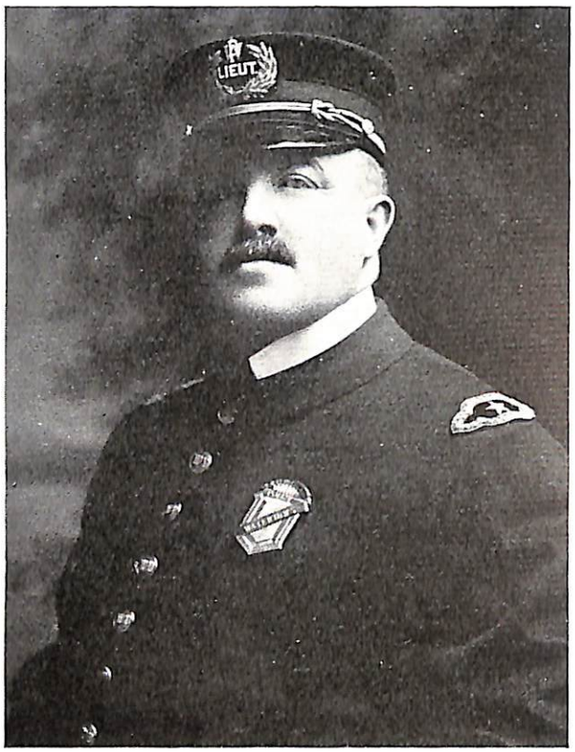
Westover and Crook, realizing that they still had no concrete evidence against the woman herself, but had her two most important members in their hands, agreed.

The morphine was transferred in El Paso, and the two Mexicans, Luis Manuel Vasquez and Alberto Torres Ybarra, were sent up for five years in an American penitentiary.

By 1943 La Nacha was fabulously wealthy. Her tortilla parties became more boisterous, and then a Mexican soldier was found dead in the bar under her rooms, a victim of an overdose of morphine. By then, too, the Mexican Congress had enacted a law under which anyone even suspected of impeding the war effort would be imprisoned.

That's the way they got La Nacha. Her property was confiscated and she was sent to Mexico's penal island, Tres Marias. There she had four years to reflect bitterly on her past.

In March, 1947, La Nacha was released. As a girl she had made tortillas in a stall near the Teatro Degollado in the town of Guadarlajar, and to this life she returned—with a police escort.



WILLIAM A. HOWARD

Lieutenant, Watertown Police Dept.

(Retired)

Chaplain

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"Jess, Plaything of Fate"

BY JOHN ERSKINE

When Thomas Hardy published "Tess of the D'Urervilles" in 1891, the reading public was torn between resentment of the philosophy conveyed by the story and sympathy for the heroine.

Tess is one of the most attractive and most convincing figures in English fiction, but Hardy, a puzzling kind of genius, never could decide whether his mission was to preach the philosophy of fatalism or to create true portraits of human beings.

As a novelist he had a gift which his admirers sometimes describe as Shakespearean; he observed characters in the round from all sides, and made them live. Tess seems a girl whom we have known, not a person we have read about.

Hardy made his creations to be also an argument against freedom of the will. He believed, or at least he wished us to believe, that human conduct is not and cannot be the result of any moral choice.

Heredity and the conditions, social or economic, in which Fate from time to time hurls us to become, perhaps the kind of person we least wish to be.

Tess was a pure woman. Hardy describes her so in the subtitle of the book. Having met her, we know for ourselves her natural goodness. But she dies on the gallows for murder, and Hardy would have us believe with him, as few of us now do, that in spite of her purity and goodness no other end was possible.

Tess Durbeyfield was the daughter of a ne'er-do-well farmer and his overworked and silly wife. A local antiquarian, meeting John Durbeyfield one afternoon, conveyed the information to him that the name Durbeyfield is a corruption of D'Urberville, and that the poor farmer, who has been drinking too much ale, is descended from a family once wealthy and titled.

Near by in the countryside well-to-do D'Urbervilles still live on their ancestral acres.

John Durbeyfield, confused and elated, reports this news to his wife and daughter. Tess brushes it aside, but Mrs. Dur-

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beyfield, who has instincts of social climbing, immediately begins to dream.

Perhaps the well-to-do D'Urbervilles will give Tess domestic employment. Perhaps there is a young man in the family. If there is, he will doubtless fall in love with Tess, and she will marry into the ancestral acres, and restore her parents to the prosperity which several generations ago John Durbeyfield's side of the family enjoyed.

There is so much human nature in all this that the story would develop logically without Hardy's fatalistic doctrine. Tess in her character provides evidence that the Durbeyfields were descended from people much finer than themselves. She is by nature, honest, sincere, loyal.

Obeying her mother, she takes the short journey to the D'Urberville farm, and is there engaged to look after the poultry. Mrs. D'Urberville asks her to undertake the work, but the decision has been made by the son of the family, Alec D'Urberville, a rascal, who considers every pretty girl his legitimate prey.

Tess dislikes him and fights him off as long as she can. When she knows she is to have a child, she goes home to her mother, who is silly enough to find satisfaction in the thought that the infant will have D'Urberville blood in its veins.

The child is born, Tess loves it, and for a short time she is happy, in spite of the difficult plight in which Alec D'Urberville has left her. But after a few months the infant sickens and dies, and Tess finds employment on another farm, as far as possible from the D'Urbervilles.

In this new place she meets, Angel Clare, a serious young man, the son of a clergyman, who himself has impulses to save the world, and might have been a missionary, like other members of his family, if he had not had a vision of a new social order at home. Society will be saved, he believes, by primitive labor close to the soil. He is busy now learning the theory and the practice of agriculture.

GEORGE W. GARDNER

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Sergeant-At-Arms and Past Treasurer

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Although he is better provided with ideals than with knowledge of life or with common sense, he is an attractive fellow, and Tess, like the other milkmaids on the farm, loses her heart. He is the one mastering love of her life.

He falls in love with her, and they marry, but on their wedding night she feels it her duty to tell him the episode of Alec D'Urberville and the child. Since he is as great a prig as Alec was a villain, Angel Clare decides he must go off somewhere, if necessary to the end of the world, and thrash his problem out with his conscience and his ideals.

He goes to Brazil, and for a year or more Tess hears nothing from him. By accident—Hardy's kind of fatalism—she encounters Alec D'Urberville again and hates him more than ever, but he pretends to be changed and his hypocrisy deceives her.

Meanwhile her father dies, her mother is in want, and nothing stands between the Durbeyfields and starvation except Alec D'Urberville's wealth.

She withstands his seige as well as she can. She writes to Angel Clare, her husband, imploring him to return and rescue her, but Angel comes back too late.

Tess, for her mother's sake, has already accepted Alec D'Urberville's aid and though he knows her only happiness is bound up in her love for Angel Clare, he has taken possession of her a second time.

Then Angel Clare returns, rid of all his doubts, and overflowing with new love for Tess—and learns what has become of her. In despair Tess stabbed Alec D'Urberville to the heart.

After her inevitable arrest, she was promptly hanged. The novel contains no trial scene. It was Thames Hardy's philosophy rather than the law which insisted on her execution.

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"You Cant Always Trust Your Eyes"

BY JOHN WILCOX

"They killed him."

Day after day the two Boston taxi drivers flinched as witness after witness took the stand and pointed accusing fingers at them.

Each of the eight witnesses told the same story: "They rushed into the Paramount Theatre in Lynn, Mass. They bound and gagged all of us in the manager's office—except old Charlie Sumner, the bill poster.

"Charlie watched for his chance, then made for the door. They shot him down, scooped up the cash and made their getaway in a car."

"They" were Clement F. Molway and Louis Berrett. And they were innocent. In vain they brought in friends to prove they were hacking in Boston, miles away, when the holdup and murder took place.

But the eyewitnesses, who had first identified them from their license pictures on file in Boston, pushed them toward the electric chair.

Their nightmare was ended, with the trial still in progress, when members of the Faber-Millen gang, with some of the Lynn loot still on them were captured in a gun battle in a New York hotel lobby.

Thus the two taxi drivers joined the large group of Americans whose freedom, and in some cases, whose very lives, have been endangered by such cruelly mistaken testimony.

How can the human eye make such terrible mistakes?

Dr. Edwin M. Borchard, of Yale University's Law School who has studied hundreds of cases of erroneous convictions for his book, "Convicting the Innocent," says:

"The emotional balance of the victim or eyewitness is so disturbed by his extraordinary experience that his powers of preception become distorted."

The truth of this statement was demonstrated in the psychology classroom of Prof Hugo Munsterbery at Harvard.

GEORGE A. PARKER

Captain, State Police

(Retired)

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

While hundreds of students watched, several men burst into the lecture hall, engaged in a great deal of violent action and then withdrew, leaving one of their members apparently stabbed to death.

As the "corpse" got up and dusted himself off, the students were instructed to write what they had seen. Not one described the scene accurately. Some believed there were two men involved, others four. Most said the "murder" had been committed with a knife, varying in size from a few inches to a big machete.

As a matter of fact, the weapon was a large yellow banana.

Virgil Romine, a St. Louis filling station operator, was not an observer but a hold-up man's victim—and his testimony was just as erroneous. Before he died he identified the men who had held him up and shot him as two young men who had slugged his slot machine some days before.

Alvin Craig and Walter Hess were therefore arrested as they slept, put on trial and, despite alibi witnesses placing them at home, were sentenced to prison. They might have had to serve out their sentences if Louis Taylor, a soldier, had not been unfaithful to his sweetheart. For revenge she informed the police he was the guilty man.

A murdered man's brother was the witness who caused Will Purvis days and weeks of mental torture. Will Buckley, a member of a hooded gang in Mississippi, decided to expose it. He was shot from ambush as he and his brother Jim were returning home from a grand jury appearance.

Jim Buckley identified young Purvis as the gunman.

On the scaffold Purvis said, "You are taking the life of an innocent man." Then the rope was placed around his neck, the stay rope was cut. Purvis' body dropped . . . and the knot unraveled, he fell unhurt.

The crowd gasped. (Some believed Providence had interceded.) They refused to allow a repeat performance.

The State Supreme Court ruled that Purvis must hang. The night before the second execution his friends whisked him into hiding.

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Years later the mystery was solved by a confession at a Holy Rollers' meeting. Purvis, cleared, was pardoned.

Eyewitnesses of much less dramatic crimes can be just as mistaken. In the Bertram Campbell case in New York, responsible bank officers and clerks identified Campbell as the man who presented forged checks, despite the fact proved later that there was little if any resemblance between Campbell and the real culprit, a man named Alexander Thiel, who was not apprehended until after Campbell had served 3½ years in Sing Sing and an additional four on parole.

Equally blameless was the unfortunate George Schmidt, the St. Louis butcher who was vastly dissimilar to a bad-check artist, Thomas P. Lawler, for whose crimes he went to jail. Witnesses in several Midwest states identified Schmidt, despite differences in shape of ears and nose, color of hair and eyes, general makeup of body and face, manner of speaking and walking. Finally, a witness rescinded his identification and Lawler confessed.

Edward A. Kimball, a wealthy, devout man who wrote philosophical and religious articles, was waiting for a train in the Baltimore station when he was nabbed by the police after Michael Funicielo had pointed him out as a stock market swindler.

Kimball was quickly accused of a similar shakedown in Chicago. Despite an alibi for the Chicago date, Kimball was convicted. A fortune was spent before he was finally cleared.

Dean John H. Wigmore, of Northwestern University, long an authority on evidence, insisted that identification of suspects is often carried out in an unfair and suggestive manner.

In dozens of cases the suspect, or his picture is shown to victims without the lineup of other similar men.

After a bank robbery in Freeburg, Ill., Floyd Flood was forced to act out the stickup with cap pulled down, collar turned up, muttering "Stick 'em up!" Two impressionable women bank clerks indentified him before the actual criminals were apprehended.

LOUIS B. HEATON

Captain, Melrose Police Dept.

(Retired)

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Dean Wigmore advocated the use of sound film. A movie of the suspect walking and talking would be shown along with film devoted to several other men, similar in appearance.

In recommending the rounded picture which film would give, Dean Wigmore insisted that a witness too often makes an identification from only a few aspects of a person, which the innocent happens to possess also.

The many positive— and erroneous—identifications of masked bandits would seem to bear this out. In a Rockford, Ill., case, Floyd Stotler was shot down in front of his father, who pointed out young Henry Olsen as the criminal although only the gunman's eyes had been visible above the mask. Olsen was cleared when the real criminals were turned in by a housemaid.

Dr. Bochard also blames over-zealous prosecutors with personal ambitions for the plight of many convicted innocents.

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"Helen Fournier's 20 Year Nightmare"

"FOR FAITHFUL AND DEVOTED SERVICES," THE TOASTMASTER SAID IN PRESENTING THE TESTIMONIAL TO THE BLOND BANK TELLER.

BY IRVING JOHNSON

Helen Fournier accepted the watch from the toastmaster and held it up for everyone to see. Then she read the inscription on the back:

"For Faithful and Devoted Service For a Quarter of a Century."

It was a magic monent for blond Mrs. Fournier. She had been with the Bristol (Conn.) Bank and Trust Company almost since her schooldays and officials of the bank had given a banquet in her honor at Bristol's swank Chipanee Country Club.

She was the chief savings teller then and one of the most trusted and able members of the bank's staff.

Now, only a little while after this shining testimonial, she's in the Connecticut State Prison for Women at Niantic—sentenced to three to eight years for stealing $132,000 from the bank. Investigators, adding interest, fix the figures at $155,731.56.

By her own admission, the thefts were spread across the last 20 of her 25 years in the teller's cage.

"She was," said State's Attorney Meade Alcorn, "one of the most brilliant embezzlers in banking history."

Helen says that the source of all her trouble and the shame she has brought to her family is her own nature. She was a born gambler, always ready to take a chance.

Her classmates at Bristol High School remember her as a plump, pretty girl who used to bet her pennies on football and other games.

At the bank, she first dipped into the money entrusted to her care to play the horses. Then it was the stock market and as

LAWRENCE M. DEWAR

Jail Keeper, Dedham

Past President and Board of Directors

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

her losses grew, her unauthorized indebtedness ballooned into terrifying proportions.

The fear of discovery became a haunting specter. She fretted interminably whenever she was away from the bank, for however short a period, and her vacations were nightmares of worry and anxiety.

Helen, then Helen Reszenski, came to Bristol with her family in 1916 and graduated from high school in 1920. She is of Polish descent and her father ran a small store in town.

She advanced rapidly at the bank. She was hard-working and pleasant and the Polish people of Bristol preferred doing business with her. Mistrustful of banks generally, they trusted her implicity.

By 1927, Helen had reached a position of responsibility and then. one day, she played a "sure thing" at the race track. The horse lost and Helen plunging heavily again, wound up owing the bookies $2,400.

She remembered how her Polish customers saved systematically, rarely ever withdrawing from their accounts, and paid her losses with money belonging to one of them.

She had found, as the State's Attorney observed later, a defect in the bank's procedure—and he called it unbelievable that it should remain undiscovered for so long.

From 1927 on, whenever Helen withdrew money from a depositor's account for her own use, she entered the amount on the customer's card and hid the card in the "dead" file.

This file contained some 12,000 cards that were filled with entries and was rarely looked into.

When a depositor whose card had been hidden (and account looted) appeared at her window, Helen took his card from its hiding place and made the proper entry on it. Her system was foolproof so long as she handled all her customers herself. The end came one day when she didn't.

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Meanwhile, the shortage in her accounts had swollen beyond all hope of restitution. When she found she couldn't beat the races, she turned to the stock market.

She lost heavily in the 1929 crash and again in 1933. She took a trial balance after that and was appalled to find she was $85,000 short.

Helen's father, who died long before her arrest ran into hard times after 1929 and she gave him $13,000. She lent her brother $14,000.

The brother later told the court that the family believed she had made a small fortune in the market.

In 1931, Helen married Augustus J. Fournier, a foreman at a factory in Bristol. He, like the rest of the family was shocked when his wife admitted her long term thefts.

Other beyond-her-income expenditures by Helen included a dress shop that cost her $12,000 and failed, and a $7,000 beach cottage.

She was at this cottage, on vacation, when a tailor deposited $500 at the bank. A teller, filling in for her couldn't find his card. There was a search lasting several days before it was discovered in the "dead file".

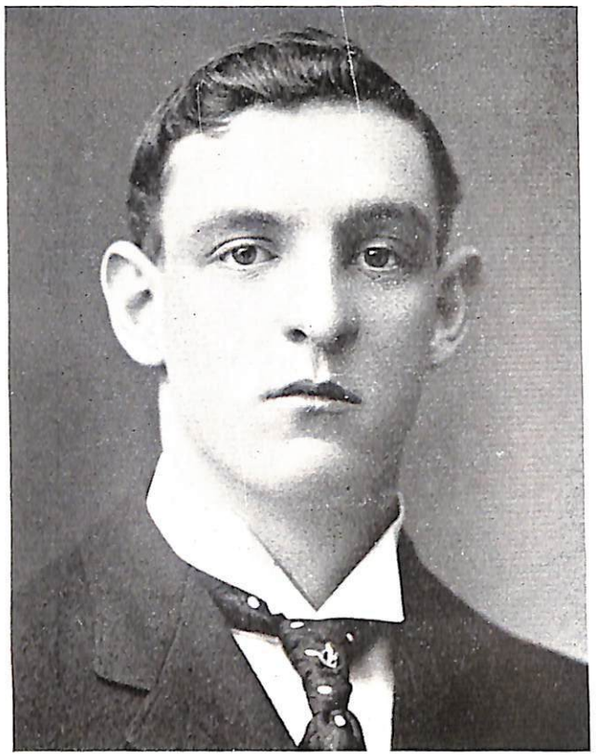
It showed a balance of $7,544.42 that had not been included in the bank's last bookkeeping balance.

Helen was ordered back from her vacation and investigations were started by the State's Attorney, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the State Banking Department and the bank's bonding company.

Helen returning home, admitted her guilt to Bank President Charles T. Treadway, Jr., and was arrested. When the case was called for trial, she had managed to raise and restore more than $70,000 to the bank.

In court, defense counsel said she had wanted to confess many times through the years (but had always been held back by her family's faith—and pride—in her.)

At last the trial was over—and Helen Fournier's 25 years of "faithful and devoted service" had reached a bitter, and inevitable end.



GEORGE M. FISH

Patrolman, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"Testing Reform By Surgery"

The impassive face of Millard Fillmore Wright, habitual burglar who aroused public sympathy recently when he tried to have his seemingly hopeless criminal tendencies cured by a surgeon's scalpel, told little about his thoughts as the doors of Pittsburgh's Western Penitentiary closed behind him, for what may be another long prison stretch.

If he felt completely beaten, no one knew it. If he believed time really would reveal that he'd become an honest citizen after many years, that, too, was his own secret.

In less than three months this Leechburg, Pa., husband and father of two children, who already has spent 15 of his 38 years of life in penal institutions, has lost the first round in his fight to prove that the brain operation known as prefrontal lobotomy could change him from a "repeater in crime" to a respectable man in a short time.

He lost because Judge G. Malcolm McDonald, who sentenced him to two to 12 years in the penitentiary for 10 burglaries in the Mt. Lebanon section of Pittsburgh, believes that Millard Wright went through the delicate brain operation only as a "publicity stunt."

"This man must be punished," the Judge snapped in reply to Defense Attorney Louis Little's plea for leniency.

"He underwent this operation at the insistence of his counsel in the hope that he would somehow escape serving his sentence.

"You can't convince me this was done for science."

At the time of the operation Millard Wright had been awaiting what his lawyer, Louis Little, predicted would be a long sentence.

Judge A. Marshall Thompson, who apparently has faith in the reforming powers of brain surgery, granted Wright's unprecedented plea that he be allowed to undergo what he hoped would be a cure for his warped personality.

Dr. Yale Koskoff, the well-known brain specialist, agreed to perform the surgery without fee in the interest of medical

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This delicate operation wherein the surgeon severs some of the connecting nerves between the pre-frontal lobe (forehead portion of the brain which is the seat of conscience) and the rest of the brain has been performed approximately 2,000 times in the United States.

It is especially effective in the type of insanity that involves anxiety and deep depression, where the internal balance of the mind is upset.

Millard Wright wasn't suffering from insanity, according to medical opinion. He had been committed for a time to the hospital for the criminally insane at Fairview, but authorities returned him to the Allegheny County Jail.

Wright's is the first case, so far as can be learned, wherein a criminal of sound mind has requested a brain operation in the hope of becoming a useful member of society; if there was that hope instead of the less worthy desire Judge McDonald attributes to him, or merely trying to beat a felony charge.

At least Millard Wright knew he incurred some risk in the venture, for the Allegheny County Behavior Clinic had reported that the operation might merely make him passive and feeble-minded.

What thoughts Millard entertained before he faced his great crisis in the operating room haven't been confided to anyone either, but it isn't unlikely that, no matter what his motive, he reviewed the past that had led to his serious predicament.

Growing up in the mill town of Leechburg under the stigma of being just plain bad hadn't been easy.

It had been a streak of tough luck, Millard always said, when, a slim shaver of 14, he had been caught and fined for speeding. His parents told authorities they couldn't do a thing with him. He was sent to the reform school, labelled incorrigible.

Eighteen months at Morganzo, the industrial farm, didn't turn young Wright into a model son or a model citizen. After a brief respite he was back for a second session.

WARREN H. LIESE

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

On release he headed for Pittsburgh, where he soon was picked up and sent to the county workhouse on charges of operating a lottery. Millard was a repeater here too.

Then he graduated to burglary.

He moved to Mansfield, Ohio, where he used the name of John Libbengood and soon was sent up for a 15-year term for burglary. He got time off for good behavior. Later he was imprisoned in West Virginia for breaking and entering.

Millard Wright, alias John Libbengood, always was a good prisoner according to his legal advisor who has this to say:

"Wright always has left prison with a perfect behavior record. He even took extension courses during one of his stays behind bars and became a law graduate."

The indications are that Wright had hoped he would not have to serve time for his recent robberies and believed he would get a full pardon for his past crimes. He expressed a desire to get a job.

To free Wright at this time, Judge McDonald pointed out in his decision, would be to invite a flood of requests from other criminals.

The medical report, after the prisoner's operation, was that it was a surgical success, but only time can tell what effect it will have on Wright's personality.

Another case, known as "Case 1000" at the Wayne County General Hospital, Eloise, Mich., was reported in the American Weekly recently.

The patient was a 19-year-old girl, and she had been listed as a "criminal mental case."

One month after the operation the patient said she no longer felt the urge to commit criminal acts. A follow-up, however, indicates that her behavior must still be observed for a period of six months or a year before any definite conclusions can be reached and action taken.

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At Western Penitentiary psychiatrists and phychologists will keep Millard Wright under observation.

"If he recovers and his institutional record is good he will stand an excellent chance of being paroled at a later date." Judge McDonald was quick to agree.

However, a recent report by the behavior clinic of Quarter Sessions Court, issued approximately eight months after the operation, states:

"When last examined Millard Wright was still the evasive, crafty, cunning person that he had been before the operation. There was no noticeable alteration of his egocentricism (self-centered attitude)."

The label these experts applied to the prisoner, "a psychopath unable to adjust himself to disappointments and frustrations," doesn't suggest that Millard Wright will be a reformed, free man very soon.

CLYDE R. SMITH

Patrolman, Beverly Police Dept.

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"Gaston B. Means, Master Rogue"

THE BIGGEST LIAR OF THE CENTURY CREATED HIS WORST DECEIT WHEN HE TRIED TO CHISEL HIS WAY INTO HEAVEN.

BY HARRY GRAY

Gaston B. Means, a super-rogue, the century's greatest liar, lay dying. There was a $100,000 secret in his mind and a con-game in his soul. With eternity but a breath away, he lied with his last gesture. He had set his scene with every semblance of impending revelation. His wife had been called to his bedside. Officers waited outside.

At last, the watchers thought, the country will know where he hid the $100,000 he hoaxed from Mrs. Evalyn Walsh McLean, Washington, D. C., multimillionaire silver heiress, with the understanding that it was to be paid as ramsom for the kidnaped Lindbergh baby.

"He is lucid," the doctor told Mrs. Means. She bent over closely. Means gazed steadily at her. Then he spoke.

"The money is—it's—." He gestured widely as if the effort was too much for him and closed his eyes. He died a few hours later.

FBI agents are convinced he had no intention of revealing the hiding place of the stolen fortune. The scene was just another fake. He had told them many lies about its hiding place. They have torn down buildings, dredged in the Potomac River, followed every clue and although the search continues after 15 years, no real trace of it has been found.

In the bizarre chapter of his life that involved Mrs. McLean, Means staged his masterpiece. He had been a breach of promise defendant; a German spy in World War I; defendant in a sensational murder trial; special investigator for the Department of Justice; king pin of a bootlegging ring in which huge bribes were passed; and author of a phony Harding administration exposé.

Mrs. McLean had been deeply touched by the Lindbergh kidnaping. Means, in the role of private detective, called on her

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James A. Geracos

and told her he had been approached through underworld connections and informed the baby would be returned for $100,000 ransom. Mrs. McLean believed. She turned the cash over to him in a shoe box. Means took the money to his house in Chevy Chase, Md. He put it on a closet shelf.

He arranged to communicate with Mrs. McLean by secret code. He designated her as No. 11. Means was No. 27. His name was never to be used, but he could be addressed as Mr. Hogan. The baby was "the package."

Means even lied in his diary. It contains this entry, referring to a trip to Fairview, Mrs. McLean's country estate in Virginia:

"A. M. In Henderson and Fenton's auto (Means said they were agents for the kidnapers) we went to Fairview. Advised by them to tell Mrs. McLean she should move out there."

Mrs. McLean, impressed with the need for secrecy, had to have some reason for leaving the town house. Means advised her to pretend illness. She gave out that she had entered Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Means telephoned her at Fairview.

"This is No. 27," he said. "Give your number."

"No. 11." Mrs. McLean answered.

"The agents are alarmed and heading south with the package. I'll communicate with you later where they will deliver it."

Next day he called her to come to his house in Chevy Chase.

"The kidnapers are in no hurry," he said. "They want to collect other ransom as well as yours."

Here he made a bold and cunning gesture. He went to a closet shelf and got the shoebox with the $100,000.

"Here is your money," he said. "You might feel better having it back until we have more definite arrangements with the gang."

"I don't care how much money the gang collects, or to whom the baby is returned," she answered. "I am interested

CHARLES M. MCNEILL

Patrolman, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

only in its recovery. Keep the money and keep working."

"If you insist," Means agreed.

He then asked $4,000 for expenses, which she gave him.

Means became wildly active and telephoned Mrs. McLean from three southern states and once from Juarez, Mexico, that he was "hot on the trail." He induced her to join him in El Paso, Texas, where he put on another act. He appeared with his head in bandages with the tale that an "agent" had become angered with him and had beaten him up.

He put up another cock-and-bull story. The kidnapers wanted an additional $35,000 for which they would turn over $50,000 in marked bills which Jafsie Conden had given to Bruno Hauptmann for the return of the baby. Here Mrs. McLean became suspicious. She returned to Washington, ostensibly to get the money. Friends convinced her she had been hoaxed, and she telephoned Means to join her.

"Means," she said, "you are a fake. I want my $100,000 back."

The rogue went into his act. He pretended to be deeply hurt at her "mistrust," said the money was at his family homestead in Concord, N. C., and promised to get it for her within two days. He went to Concord and returned at the promised time. He greeted her:

"You got the money all right, No. 11?"

"What are you talking about? I didn't get any money."

"But No. 11, I gave it to your messenger on the bridge at Alexandria, Va. He halted my car and told me No. 11 had sent him for the money. Having your secret number, I had no doubt you had sent him."

"I sent no one," she answered.

So the $100,000 vanished. Mrs. McLean had him jailed, and he was sent to Alcatraz Prison for 15 years.

The FBI has not given up hope yet. Some day, they are convinced, they will learn the secret of the man they call the greatest liar of the century; and the money will be returned to Mrs. McLean.

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SHE WANTS TO COMMIT MURDER, BUT THE SYMPATHETIC POLICE WON'T EVEN REVEAL HER NAME.

The little girl was holloweyed and thin, shivering in her shabby coat. She sat on the edge of the hard wooden chair with the tips of her worn shoes just touching the floor, for she was small for her 13 years. When she saw what the policeman was putting on the table in front of her, her brown eyes brightened.

"Here, mon enfant. This should warm you up," he said, motioning toward the steaming bowl of soup.

She started to eat hungrily, her dark hair, still misty with rain, falling around her face in a curling tangle. As the color began to creep back into her pale lips, the Policemen quietly resumed their questioning.

"And you say you're going to see your mother in Paris?"

"Yes, monsieur."

"But it's almost a hundred miles," he pointed out. "That's a long way for a little girl to walk."

"Yes, monsieur. But I must go," the child insisted earnestly. "I told you, I'm going to kill my mother—or find somebody who will."

This was no childish whim, no adolescent wish to "get back" at her mother for a fancied hurt. The tragedy was that the girl had good and just reason to hate her mother, and had taken a sacred vow to find her and avenge the one person she had loved most in all the world—her father.

In the police files at Courville-sur-Eure, France, where she was picked up, cold and exhausted, the child's name appears only as Arlette "X". As one of the police officers said, "I thought I had seen about everything in the way of human misery and unhappiness, but that youngster—she tore my heart out. We want to protect her all we can. Nobody will find out her name from us."

Arlette had adored her father, a Paris railway man. They spent countless hours together, reading and playing, and his

JAMES TANISH

Patrolman, Malden Police Dept.

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"day off," when he could be with her all day, was the high spot of the week.

One night in 1943, during the German occupation of Paris there was a sudden knocking on the door. Before the child's horrified eyes, without explanation, her father was dragged out of the house by the Gestapo. A few days later, she was told he had been shot as a resister. Then her mother left too. She simply walked out, leaving the eight-year-old girl less than a dollar, and vague directions for reaching her uncle's farm, a hundred miles away.

Just a few weeks ago, her father's body was finally brought to Arlette's uncle's for burial. On the night before the ceremony unable to sleep, the unhappy little girl crept to the attic to try to find a picture of her father she thought might be in an old trunk. She found it—and also a letter to her uncle. By the flickering light of a candle, she read the letter, written by her father on the night before his execution. It accused her mother of turning him over to the Gestapo so that she could go away with another man.

The next day at the cemetery, her father's friends vowed to avenge his death and Arlette made her own private vow. She had loved her father most, and felt she should be the one to avenge him.

The police of Courville-sur-Eure tried to reason with her, but Arlette was quietly determined. "I'll try again, and the next time I won't fail," she said simply.

In the meantime, the police are inquiring into the case. They want to prevent Arlette from having to suffer the consequences of such a crime. Besides, they have their own ways of dealing with collaborators.

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"Reformation of Sir Derrick"

BY WARREN HALL

Most of the crowd had left the casino. Half a dozen Oxford students stood impatiently behind a young plunger, six and a half feet tall, who stuck at the baccarat table.

"Come on, Derrick," one of them urged. "I have a class at nine."

The player shrugged, pushed out a 1,000-pound note, picked up his cards, motioned for another, tossed in his hand and stood up.

"If I had another fiver," he said, "I'd wager that you'll never make it."

Before he left college, Sir Derrick Wernher had managed to squander $200,000, which he did not have, and he got rid of another $350,000, which he also didn't possess, in the next two years.

Then the bubble burst. His father, Sir Julius Wernher, who had made $57,000,000 in the South African diamond fields, died. Instead of the bequest that he—and his creditors—anticipated, Derrick, the eldest of three sons, was left a trust fund from which he could take only $6,000 a year. He promptly went into bankruptcy.

The wealth he had expected all his life and the respect that he hoped would atone for a profligate youth finally came to Sir Derrick—but too late. Just when he had begun to enjoy the fruits of inheritance and repentance, death also came the other day to the 58-year-old British baronet. He plunged to his doom from the balcony of a London apartment house—whether by accident or design, a coroner's jury was unable to decide.

After his bankruptcy, Sir Derrick redeemed himself in World War I by winning the French Croix de Guerre, only to be dismissed when a post-war court-martial heard charges of the misuse of army trucks. He left for America under a cloud, the black sheep of a distinguished family.

Even his New York debut was hardly auspicious. Not long after his arrival he was arrested for caning an urchin on the street.

HERBERT B. LUNDY

Patrolman, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Past President and Councillor for Federation

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"I merely pushed the little beggar," he insisted. The police let him go after he had paid the urchin $250, which, on the basis of size, figured out at about a dollar per pound of push.

When Derrick reached 30, his income from the trust fund, under the terms of his father's will, increased to $12,000 a year. Two years later he was secretly married in New York to Theodora Romanov, who had fled from Russia via Canada. He scoffed at reports that she was a princess.

"That's just because my brother Harold is married to Countess Zia Torby, daughter of Grand Duke Michael of Russia," he insisted.

But almost a quarter of a century later, in 1946, the report was revived when he asked the courts to appoint a committee to manage Theodora's affairs on the ground that she was mentally ill. He said she had delusions that he had employed a detective agency for 20 years "to watch and persecute her."

Recalling that some members of the Russian royal family were supposed to have escaped assassination by the Bolsheviks in 1919, a doctor testified that Theodora had told him she was a daughter of Czar Nicholas. Her attorney declared:

"The Wernher's daughter, Anna, told me that during her childhood there was a veil of secrecy surrounding her mother's family and background, and that on many occasions statements and inferences were made which led the daughter to believe her mother is a member of the royal family of Russia; also that many of the mother's so-called delusions and fears were justifiable."

Two years after his marriage, while Sir Derrick and Theodora were traveling abroad, the famous Wernher jewel collection was stolen from his mother, who had remarried and become Baroness Ludlow. The gems were recovered after her lawyers paid $30,000 to an unnamed individual.

The culprit was never identified. Scotland Yard made the observation that Sir Derrick, who was bitter about his father's will, and who happened to be in London at the time, had been

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arrested on an old perjury charge shortly after the jewels were taken and was released about the time they were returned.

Abandoning England once more, Sir Derrick settled his wife and infant daughter in a house in Deal, N. J., which he named Luton Hoo after his father's estate in Bedfordshire. He collected rare books, exercised his talents as a lexicographer by working on the Standard Dictionary and spent much of his time playing bridge with a neighbor, P. Hal Simms, who called him Bozo.

Ironically, the hard-luck gambler who had lost a fortune over the card tables in his youth became one of the world's best bridge players. He was president of the American Bridge League and the teams he headed won titles here and abroad.

The reformation of Sir Derrick began with World War II. Shortly after hostilities started, he joined the intelligence division of the British army and became a secret agent, dividing his time largely between London and New York. What he did was never disclosed, but he was highly commended for his work.

Some of the millions that had been dangling before his eyes since boyhood finally came to him when his mother died in 1945. Last year he took up his residence with his 24-year-old daughter in an apartment overlooking London's Hyde Park. There were no fatted calves for the prodigal son, but London's fashionable Mayfair proved again that money makes a difference, by showing no reluctance whatever to accept him, after he had come into his inheritance.

Just before sunset one evening he stepped out on a low-railed balcony outside the apartment and, a few minutes later, was found dead on a sidewalk 80 feet below. His daughter said he had suffered recently from spells of dizziness. An inquest was unable to determine whether he had fallen or jumped.

BURTON A. MURRAY

Captain, Metropolitan District Police

(Retired)

Past President

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"Never Off Duty"

BY BOOTON HERNDON

Howard Hegerich had that feeling that comes to a man when he's off work and can sleep late the next day. It was late at night, but he thought he'd go out and get a sandwich.

As he sauntered down the quiet streets of an outlying section of New York City, he was just like any other young man off work. There was one small difference. Howard Hegerich was a cop.

So when he saw four men huddled together in a doorway, the young man off duty turned automatically into a policeman, sworn to investigate any suspicious action. He was just a rookie, only out of the Navy a few months, and living with his parents. But he was still a cop.

He walked toward the four men. Suddenly flashes of light shot out into the night, and gunfire echoed through the streets. The young man off duty crumpled and fell, but before he hit the sidewalk his gun was in his hand, and he emptied it before he died.

One of his bullets found its mark, and led to the arrest of the four men, all confessed robbers.

Hegerich had proved again that a policeman is never off duty, anywhere, anytime.

Patrolman Leslie Kittinger of Evansville, Ind., has been spending his spare time the last 10 years on a particular sleuthing job.

It hadn't netted him a criminal yet, but it has gone far toward making better citizens of several hundred boys in his own home town.

Kittinger tracks down part time jobs for boys who would otherwise have to quit school. He has found 500 of these jobs, and filled them with kids who were thus able to continue their education. A part time job put Patrolman Kittinger through school.

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Patrolman George W. Miller of the Washington, D. C., force, believes in preventing boys from growing up to be criminals, rather than catching them after they have gone wrong. An ex-professional fighter, he taught the kids in the neighborhood to box.

Talking to them in their own language, he quickly found that he had a club of eager boys on his hands.

When a dry-cleaning establishment in the neighborhood figured out the reason why the store windows no longer were being smashed with rocks, the management donated a $25 exercise mat to the club.

Miller promptly called the boys together for a serious talk.

"Look," he said, "that guy didn't have to shell out. He did it because he's a good guy. Why don't you stop around and thank him sometime?"

Every kid paid a personal visit to the businessman. Needless to say, the windows are still intact. The rambunctious underprivileged kids are now courteous, upright boys.

Once Miller intercepted a mother charging after her kid with a broomstick in her hand. Miller stopped her, found out that the boy hadn't eaten his breakfast.

"Lady," he said, "how long has it been since you held your boy close to you and cuddled him?"

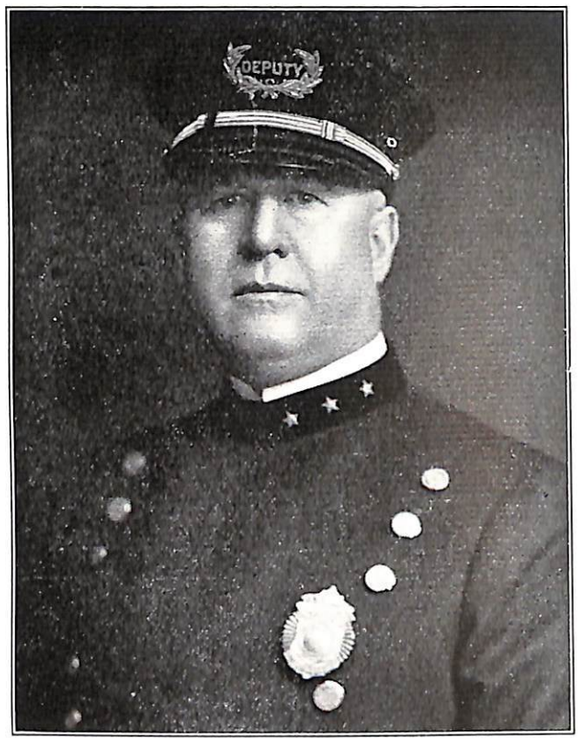
"I haven't got time," she snapped.

"I would if I had a little boy like that," he replied calmly. "You've tried force, now why not try a little love?"

The broomstick was thrown in an ash heap long ago. The mother has found something a lot stronger.

Although Raymond A. Donovan is now president of the Patrolmen's Benefit Association of New York, he served several years on the force. His happiest recollection is of the time he stuck his nose in where he really had no business.

It was a poor tenement flat, peopled by a mother and her three hungry children. Donovan was shocked by their poverty,



JOHN M. ANDERSON

Deputy Superintendent, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

and he quickly went out and canvassed the neighborhood. When he came back he had food, money, and promises of help.

Donovan also recalls the time he was summoned by an hysterical man, alone in his apartment, who claimed that a bandit was hiding on the fire escape outside his bedroom window. Donovan pulled out his gun, tiptoed to the window, and charged out to capture the supposed desperadoes.

He found himself holding a pair of pants in his arms. "They'd been flapping in the breeze," he said.

Sergt. Francis Pape of Chicago, who has sent 109 felons to the pen and several to the morgue during his eight years as a detective, solved one baffling case because he had studied about refrigerants.

Two men had made a specialty of holding up check-cashing agencies with a tank which contained poison gas. When the cashier of one agency refused to believe their threat, the gas-masked pair sprayed her with lethal fumes and killed her.

Pape, assigned to the case, reasoned that one of the unique robbers must have had experience as a refrigerator repair man. That was why he boned up on refrigerants.

It paid off. In a room which a pair of hoodlums had vacated he saw an object which he recognized as the key for a gas container. The only other clue in the room was a photograph of a young girl. He went to the photo studio, sifted through 12,000 negatives, found the one he wanted and learned the name and address of the girl's father, who had been a refrigerator repair man.

He had also been one of the poison-gas robbers, and his arrest earned Pape one of his 21 citations.

Overtime, voluntary work on the part of Milwaukee policemen has resulted in a baseball team that develops citizens of boys who might otherwise grow up to be bad.

Patterned largely along the lines of the famous New York Police Athletic League (PAL), the work of Lt. Michael Wolke, who heads the league, has already been noticed.

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Of the 420 boys taking part in the organization, only three have had brushes with the law. This figure is remarkable, because nearly all the boys had previously paid visits to juvenile court.

Juvenile Officer Tim J. Keady, who recently retired in Chicago, maintained for 20 years that there was never a bad boy or girl.

He received over 200 letters a year during the war from problem boys whom he had led back into the straight and narrow.

Once, however, even Tim made a mistake. He picked up a juvenile, and gave him the customary lecture, then released him. It was several minutes before Tim realized that while he had been talking, the boy had been lifting the cop's watch.

LEROY L. PHINNEY

Chief, Whitman Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"Into Thin Air"

BY PETER LEVINS

Writers of fictional mystery tales like to start off with the finding of the body and proceed from there, but that approach isn't possible in the strictly non-fictional case of Ambrose J. Small, the Canadian theatre magnate. There wasn't any body.

Small, a lean, swarthy and not overgenerous despot, had made himself the dominating figure in the theatre world of Canada by late 1919, when he negotiated the sale of his chain of playhouses for $1,750,000. He vanished a few hours after the sale had been effected, and after he had banked a check for $1,000,000.

The events of that day, Dec. 2, 1919, were, as near as could be ascertained, as follows:

Late in the morning he met his attorney and representatives of the purchasing syndicate, the Trans-Canada Co., in his offices in the Grand Opera House in Toronto. The deal was completed, and Small received the check for a million, the rest to be paid later. He deposited the check shortly after noon, had lunch with his wife, Theresa, then with her visited a Catholic children's institution. He left her at about 3, promising to be home for dinner at 6:30, and returned to his office.

There he was attended by John Doughty, his confidential secretary and general factotum, who had been in his employ for 19 years. A few days earlier, Small had gotten Doughty a job as manager of a Montreal theatre at $75 a week. This was $30 a week more than Small was then paying his secretary.

Doughty, who had been heard to complain of his employer's niggardliness, had not yet assumed his new duties in Montreal.

The hour of 6:30 came and went. Eventually Mrs. Small called his office, but got no answer.

The night passed. No sign of Ambrose.

Mrs. Small sent futile telegrams to her husband's theatres in eastern Canada. She said nothing to the police because she believed that Ambrose had gone off with another woman. Not

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until two weeks had passed did she confide in the authorities. They let several more days go by, feeling that Small would turn up none the worse for whatever experiences he'd undergone, then decided to consult John Doughty.

Doughty, they learned, had gone to Montreal to assume his new duties there. On Saturday, Dec. 21, he had left to spend the weekend with relatives in Toronto. On Monday, he had phoned the theatre in Montreal that he was ill and might not be fit to return for several days.

He did not show up at the theatre later that week. He did not show up anywhere.

Immediately the police began to take the Small case seriously, and their concern was reflected in headlines.

The question arose at once as to whether anything else had disappeared besides Small and his erstwhile factotum. Money, say. The police check on this showed that Doughty had twice visited Small's bank on Dec. 2, and on each occasion had taken out or put in some bonds. Net amount extracted: $150,000!

The great Small mystery was now in full bloom. Mrs. Small offered $70,000 reward—$50,000 for the discovery and return of her husband, $15,000 for his identified body, and $5,000 for the capture of John Doughty. She also hired five private detective agencies, four of them in the United States. Her two sisters-in-law, Gertrude and Florence Small, retained another agency in the United States.

In November, 1920, Detective Austin R. Mitchell of Toronto, received a telegram from Constable Edward Fortune of Oregon City, Ore., stating that a man resembling Doughty was working in a paper mill there. Mitchell hastened to Oregon City, took one look at the mill foreman, then cried, "John Doughty!"

The fugitive—if we may call him that—admitted he had taken the $150,000 in bonds from Small's safety deposit vault, but insisted that he had not done so until after Small disappeared.

JAMES E. O'TOOLE

Chief, Bourne Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Back in Toronto, he promptly handed over the missing bonds, which he had secreted in the attic of his sister's home. The following April, when he was tried on a charge of grand larceny, he came up with an unexpected defense. He said Small had intended to reward him, and had promised to do so as soon as the theatre deal had been effected. "I took the bonds out of the vault on Dec. 2," Doughty said, "with the intention of suggesting to Mr. Small that this sum would be a suitable reward, but I decided not to mention the matter right away. Then he disappeared, and I decided to keep the bonds anyway."

He got six years and went to jail in 1921.

Ambrose J. Small, in the meantime, had not reappeared.

Early in 1923, Mrs. Small sought to have him declared legally dead, so that she might offer for probate an informal will made on Sept. 6, 1903. This testament, written on a single sheet of paper, bequeathed Small's entire estate to the widow, and nothing at all to his spinster sisters. No sooner had Mrs. Small succeeded in this action than the sisters asserted they had a will, made in 1917, which disinherited the wife. Their lawyers intimated that there had been a romance between Mrs. Small and an unnamed Canadian—a suggestion which the widow dramatically denied in court. Actually, it had been Ambrose who'd misbehaved, she said.

"Did your husband write a letter to another man in 1917 making an accusation against him?" a lawyer for the sisters asked.

"My husband was in the power of a designing woman," she replied. "There was a diabolical plot so that she might stay in this city."

Tom Flynn, an old pal of the missing man, was asked about the alleged plot. He replied, "Anything I did in the way of plotting was to protect Mrs. Small." He denied that he had influenced Small against his wife.

Mrs. Small produced letters written to Ambrose by a married woman who had been associated with him since 1915. In one, written only a few weeks before his disappearance, she had

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said, "I am the most unhappy girl in the world. Can't you suggest something after the first of December? You will be free, practically. Let's beat it away from our troubles."

The will contest culminated in a settlement whereby the sisters, lacking any will to back their claim, received $100,000 each, while the widow received the remainder.

The Small sisters would not admit defeat. After Theresa's death in October, 1935, they sought to upset her will, which left $2,000,000 to charity, and they produced a "confession" Mrs. Small was alleged to have made in 1929. The typed statement, signed "T. Small," read:

"Poor Ambrose was killed on Dec. 2, 1919, and I know that part of his body was buried in the Rosedale Ravine dump, and other parts were burned in the Opera House furnace. You will be surprised, my dear Florence and Gertrude, to learn that I am more than any other person responsible for your brother's death.

"I will not cause any more pain to a living soul, and that is why I will not reveal the names of those involved; but I will tell you one thing—it cost me plenty to close their mouths."

The theory that Small had been killed in the theatre building and burned in the furnace had been previously investigated. One man told a story, unsubstantiated, that he had been invited by a complete stranger to join a murder plot against Small 21 months before his disappearance. Another man, Thomas Shields, had asserted that he'd seen Small in the boiler room of the theatre on the night of Dec. 2.

"I was invited in for a drink," Shields had related. "Small and another man were already there. There seemed to be a row on. I heard somebody say, 'You——! I'm going to put you in that coal hole.' I noticed that there was a brisk fire in the furnace . . . There was one man with Small when I left."

All such leads had failed.

As for the alleged confession, Mr. Justice Nicol Jeffry, calling it an "unquestioned forgery," said:

THOMAS J. PRESCOTT

Captain, Worcester Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"The great pity is that there has been all this scandal, all these charges and the court finds they are untrue. The pity of it all is that they were made against a dead woman."

So the curtain fell on the mystery of the millionaire Small. Whether or not his body was burned in the Opera House furnace —as many persons still believe—he certainly vanished into thin air.

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"Juveniles on the Loose"

BY GENEVIEVE PARKHURST

Nationally Recognized Research Authority and Author of "Alcoholism—Laymen Join Science to Cure It"

No. 4—JUVENILE CLUBS

In previous articles we have had an airview of the bitter and expanding field of girl delinquency. We have, to some extent, touched upon the factors from which it has arisen.

Finally, we shall look at what is being done and what should be done to liquidate it. Then we shall know that the discrepancy between the two is an American tragedy.

Just now in the cities the police are rounding up adolescent girls with an eye to keeping them off the night streets and out of the night places. Any girl who looks as if she might be under age may be removed from dance hall, bar or grill, movie theatre, railway or bus terminal, if found there between 8:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M.

As a war measure to protect our fighting men from temptation and infection such a method may have its points. It is proving somewhat effective in decimating the crowds of adolescent girls on the streets and in the "hot-spots." As a means of curbing, curing or preventing delinquency it is sterile, stupid and even cruel.

Young women of dignity, out with escorts for an innocent evening, have been stopped and put to the ugly necessity of defending their position.

Girls, who had stopped in at a movie or a grill for a little excitement in their dull and daily trip from desk or machine to miserable one-room lodgings have suffered the same indignities.

Many of those rounded up have Social Security cards and are engaged in war work. The police admit that much. The minority, if proven derelict, are detained in jail or detention homes, brought to trial and then either sent back to their homes and the same conditions which caused their downfall or sentenced to institutions which, for the greater part, do little or nothing to rehabilitate them and often do a great deal toward aggravating them to greater rebellion.

WILLIAM L. O'DELL

Lieutenant, Cambridge Police Dept.

(Retired)

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

The authorities, including the police, acknowledge that the causes of adolescent delinquency are the same as those listed here: neglectful parents, working mothers, child labor, sordid surroundings, and inadequate housing.

And, as the arch malefactor of the war emergency, lack of recreational facilities for the girls and boys whose parents must work and whose homes are not adapted to young needs.

In all reason, then, the answer to the police lies not in punishment, but in the elimination of these causes by supplying the needs they indicate. In praise of a growing number of cities it must be said that this is now being done.

It was the young, themselves, with the help of the grown-ups, who set the pattern. In Oklahoma City, which is the center of immense industrial activities and army training camps, the girls whose parents had come from a distance to do war work found themselves on the loose.

Living in crowded quarters, and with the members of their families working on different shifts, they had no place to go when their day at high school was over. Their favorite "hang-out," the corner drug store, had been practically taken over by the trainees.

Then someone told them about the dusty trunk room in the basement of the local Y.W.C.A. "Why not have a hang-out of our own?" they asked.

The same question put to the "Y" secretary brought a nod of approval. In no time at all the walls had been washed down, the floors were cleaned and waxed. A snack bar was installed. The tables and chairs lent by the "Y" were in place. And all done by high school girls and boys.

Local artists made the place gay with Wild West murals. Someone donated a juke box. Someone else lent a piano. Rules and regulations were drawn up—not by the grown-ups of the town who were now wholeheartedly behind them—but by the young people.

The "Bar-None Corral," as they named it in their own idiom, opened with a bang-up party with hundreds of teen-age girls and boys jiving and jitter-bugging to their legs' content.

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The pattern set by the Bar-None Corral has spread from city to city. Seventy-five hangouts are under direct sponsorship of the Y.W.C.A. More and more of them are being launched through the "Y" as an instrument of the USO.

In Burlington, Iowa, an editorial in the high school paper telling that the girls had no place to go after school hours brought an immediate response. A committee of the girls talked before the Kiwanis Club. The City Council stepped into line. In three weeks they had $2,500 to get the "Spider Web" in party order.

All the decorating and painting were done by the boys and girls. Open from 3:30 to 5:30 P.M. and from 8:00 to 10:30 P.M. and from 7:30 to 11:00 on Fridays and Saturdays, with doors closed on Sundays, they have made the "Spider Web" entirely self-supporting.

In Detroit, which had one of the worst delinquency problems in the country, there are four such hang-outs, each located in a district where housing is crowded or otherwise inadequate; and where parents working on different shifts make proper home life for the young difficult.

There are the Swing In, in Little Rock; the Nickel Nook in Boise; the Yacht Club in Lima; the Jive Club in Beloit; the Hi-Spot in South Bend; the Teen-agers' Nite Club in Galveston; the Teen Tavern in Chattanooga, and so on.

It is too early to claim they are a panacea for all that is ailing our adolescents of today. But they are keeping the girls as well as the boys off the night streets and out of the hot-spots. And they are providing for them a new and better sense of values.

You can get the young to do almost anything if it is made interesting to them. Especially so if you let them think it is their own idea.

The Girl Reserves of the "Y", teen-agers themselves, entering into the spirit of the movement, have led many girls who had somehow felt that they were outsiders in the war effort to join nurse's aide classes. Others are going happily into the

WINTHROP A. PALMER

Patrolman, Winchester Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

homes of the community to help mothers and housewives by doing part-time work. Others are helping afternoons in the day nurseries.

The boys and girls working together are conducting paper and metal salvage drives; selling war stamps. A council of girls does the planning for the hang-out activities. The boys and girls take turns behind the snack bars, checkrooms and at K.P. duty. Where discipline is needed, it is often self-administered.

At a teen-age night in a USO center in a Southern city a young rascal threw corn as a possible pep-raiser. The pop bottles began to spin about the floor. The party was broken up.

The following Wednesday, scheduled as "Fun Night," the supervisor made no gesture of opening the hang-out doors, but remained in her office.

When things appeared at a standstill a committee of boys and girls came to the supervisor. She invited them to sit down and talk things over. Their response to her talk was an almost unanimous, "Why should we all be punished for what one or two did?"

A boy spoke up. "I threw the first corn and spun the first bottle. I'm sorry and I should be punished." He barred himself from the hang-out for a week. Every evening, he took his stand outside the window, watching the dancers. There has been no recurrence of such incidents.

In another town, a group of young gangsters, some of whom had left school and were working full-time at pay of $48 a week, were running amok in the hot-spots. Now they are the Chetnicks, spending their leisure in doing things for the Red Cross or the local charities.

As members of the council of their club they have set up a warning at the entrance: "Everyone must wear shoes. No smokes, no pop, no hats in gym. Only ladies and gentlemen above 13 allowed. All-over admission five cents."

In one center lack of respect for property became aggravated. The furniture was broken up, papers and butts were thrown on the floors. It was almost decided not to have a Christmas party.

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Goodwill and the pleas of the youngsters prevailed. The boy who had been most annoying worked the hardest to get the tree in place.

Alicia, 15, is the only non-working member of a family of five who came from the East Coast to an industrial boom town in the Middle West. Two of them are on the night shift and two on the day shift in a munitions plant. They live in two rooms. Alicia, who once wandered the streets, now spends her free time doing her homework and making new friends at the hang-out.

A most serious phase of the delinquency problem is that of the girls who have, through poverty, neglect or poor mentality, adopted a wayward life as a means of livelihood.

To arrest them, turn them over to the medical authorities when necessary, and then to return them to their parents or to place them in reformatories which are that in name only, does not get them any place. They need to be set on the straight road. The best job of this sort is being done by the Federal Security Administration through its Social Protection Section.

With our entrance into the war, few cities had the set-up for combatting venereal disease. In some places clinics were started in the jails or hospitals and some of them have had a degree of success. But the overflow has been so great that local authorities could not cope with it. So the FSA, together with the Public Health Services, established camps.

Here, the patients are not only healed of their maladies but every effort is made to rehabilitate them. And employment is found for them when they are ready to be discharged.

Many of them have little or no education to speak of. Many cannot even read and write. Only a few are middle-aged, and they are broken-down. Between two-thirds and three-fourths are under 20 years of age. Some are child-brides, married off by their parents at the ages of 10 and 12—the very ones we were reading about four or five years ago.

Ellen, one of them, now has three children. She is not yet 18. Two years ago her husband left to look for work. She has never had a word from him.

CHARLES H. HENDRICKSON

Sergeant, Metropolitan District Police

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

She tried to earn a living by waiting on table, doing laundry or domestic work. But she couldn't read the menus, and living in a cabin all her life had not been conducive to domestic talents. She took to the road and the streets.

She asked the camp director if she could be taught how to read and write so she could be a real waitress. Another patient, a high school graduate, taught her to read and write and figure. Well again, she was Godsped with a job waiting for her. She is giving a good account of herself.

Twenty-four of these centers are under state health departments which are carrying out a well-defined program of education. All patients who wish to do so may have vocational training. Classes are held in welding, machine work and even transport work.

Many of the girls help to operate the center and are paid on the Army basis. Plots from five to 88 acres, according to the area of the camps, are set aside for Victory Gardens, where the girls learn the latest and best farming methods.

"When you get to know these kids," said a councillor who has been working among the poor and the fallen for many years, "you know how darn glad most of them are to be helped. And you realize what a miscarriage of justice and wisdom their plight is.

"I've not found many who would have made a free choice of their profession. Nor would many have chosen it at all if, at the time of their dilemma, had someone been around to advise and give them help."

For full answer to the entire problem there should be an over-all program, arrived at through conferences of the United States Children's Bureau, the national and local welfare associations, schools, civic societies, the churches and the police authorities.

It should include adult education classes and parental guidance for mothers and fathers unable to handle their young; classes in home-making; proper housing facilities, with State and Federal help where needed, but with the administration

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resting within the community; more settlements such as the Henry Street Settlement in New York; better schools and better teachers; and with curricula adapted to the needs of the times; in face, all the spiritual and material resources of the community should be brought into play to retrieve the lost ones and to prevent others who might do so from following their example.

There should be proper recreation centers such as those mentioned here—places where the youngsters of high school age could blow off steam. Child labor laws regarding wages and hours should be tightened instead of relaxed. Where adolescent girls are employed in large numbers there should be an expert woman councillor.

In many places the juvenile court system needs a thorough overhauling. The judges should be chosen for spiritual attainments and not for political reasons. The job should not be a rotating one from court to court as is now too often the case, but a steady one. Otherwise how can they gain the necessary experience?

Girls detained for trial should be kept in a properly constituted detention home and not in contact with hardened offenders.

There seems to be no reason why, in time, a foster home system could not be built up along the lines of that for younger children which the Children's Aid Society and kindred philanthropies have proved to be so effective. When they must be sent to institutions, then these institutions should not be penal, but corrective and educative.

For commercialized vice there is no panacea. But there could be a law which, if enacted, would go a long way to curb it. If the same penalty were demanded from the man who buys as from the woman who sells the answer would be automatic.

Men are chary of their secret sins. They do not fancy having them exposed. Rather than risk public condemnation they would refuse to buy. No one tries to sell for long what no one wants to purchase.

JOHN B. GLAWSON, JR.

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

Past President and Councillor for Federation

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"Britain's New Blackout — Crime"

LONDON—

The night-long blackness was gone. The lights were on again and V-E Day had arrived. A jubilant England, pausing for a little introspection after a brief period of rejoicing, found itself in the midst of a crime wave which had reached alarming proportions.

Murders were on the increase. Footpads were going great guns. Housebreaking was becoming entirely too popular. Reports reaching Home Secretary Herbert Morrison showed in some towns and cities that indictable crimes had doubled in the last few months. In one provincial area—the Liverpool and Manchester districts and the northeast of England—there had been a jump of 300 per cent since 1939.

It was a phenomenon that civic authorities found hard to explain. Except for the period immediately after the institution of the blackout and during the worst days of the blitz, the statistics on crime throughout England had been remarkably stable. And now, with astonishing suddenness, they had taken a sharp turn for the worse.

Officials had been too busy to analyze reports, but they might have suspected that trouble was ahead when Scotland Yard, long acclaimed as the most efficient law-enforcing body in the world, found itself confronted with nine unsolved murders at one time.

Seven of the victims were women and one of them, Helen Hoyles, was a worker in an American Red Cross Club in Southampton. This was the murder that attracted the most attention because the cap of an American soldier was lying in the short dead-end alley in which the strangled body of the little spinster was found.

England had been bulging at the seams with American soldiers for three years, but there had been remarkably few crimes attributed to them. Because the American authorities were anxious to preserve this record, every effort was made to find the owner of the cap. Hairs were plucked from the heads of several suspects, but they failed to match the few which had been found in the cap.

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Then bloodhounds were put to work. Every soldier in every American camp in the vicinity was mustered into line on the parade grounds and the bloodhounds, after sniffing the cup, were led up and down the ranks. That didn't produce any results and the dogs were equally unresponsive after they had smelled some of the letters that were found in Miss Hoyles' room.

Almost as baffling was the case of Evelyn Hatton, attractive wife of a cinema attendant, who had led a quiet home life until the war. Then she began to go out at night, telling her husband she was doing war work. Instead, it developed, she went to a $100 a week flat in fashionable Mayfair, where she entertained well-to-do male friends. At other times she was to be found in the most exclusive restaurants and night clubs, spending money lavishly and posing as a woman of rank.

After she failed to return home one morning, a search produced her strangled body in the Mayfair flat. Her feet had been bound together and there was some indication that she had been tortured. The only clue was a diary containing the first names of several men. None of them was identified.

The same sort of Jekyll-Hyde existence led to the death of Mrs. Eileen Cook, who was at home every evening, but spent her days with many men to whom she was known as "Irish Molly". She was found stabbed to death in a Bethnal Green air raid shelter.

The list of murders continued to grow. When 32-year-old Mrs. Audrey Irene Stewart died in a hospital after being unconscious for 52 days, police lost their only chance of identifying the man who had beaten her severely in her Victoria apartment.

A silk stocking was used to strangle Mrs. Josephine Martin, a Russian woman who had married an Englishman to escape deportation as an alien. Neighbors heard her quarreling with a man in her furnished room, but he was not traced. Two other women were garroted—beautiful Constance Hind with a piece of wire and Mrs. Jeannette Cotton with a gaily colored scarf.

An unidentified assailant struck down Charles Walton, 75, as he trimmed hedges at Lower Quinton, Warwickshire, and another smashed the skull of Captain John Ward in the cabin of his own ship.

WALTER E. HOUGHTON

Patrolman, Newburyport Police Dept.

(Retired)

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

The increase in crimes of violence was matched by almost every kind of misdemeanor.

In Manchester alone it was reported that 7,000 offenses of many types had been committed in 1944, with a sharp increase during the first few months of 1945.

Attempting to find a reason for the waxing of crime while the war strain was waning, the Home Office pointed out that police departments had been depleted by the draft, that rationing made commodities more tempting and that householders and their families were frequently away from home on war work, leaving their houses unguarded.

People were earning more money, the Home Office said, and were more careless in displaying it.

Furthermore, officials added, many persons invited robberies by leaving hundreds of dollars worth of jewels and furs in their homes instead of keeping them in safe places.

Whatever the reason might be, it was clear that Britain, rapidly ceasing to become an arsenal, was finding a new problem to cope with.

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"No Witch Hunt," Says J. Edgar Hoover of Loyalty Check on 1,800,000 United States Employees

BY JOHN KELSO

WASHINGTON—As tension tightens between two ways of life—the communism of the East, the democracy of the West—the Boss Man of every G-Man was never busier than he is now, carrying out the provisions of the controversial "Loyalty Program".

But J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is going to try to take time out to read this exclusive Boston Sunday Post story before leaving for his home "sometime tonight".

As head of an organization that has been called upon to check on the loyalty of 1,800,000 Federal employees, Hoover is putting in tremendously long hours, inasmuch as "the department's facilities are being stretched to the hilt."

Thus some of this material was obtained from "F. B. I. spokesmen"—they have a wonderful passion for anonymity here—but all of it reflects the views of the square-jawed, legally-trained, time-tested "Big Time Cop".

Actually, this article, in which Hoover emphasizes that the "Loyalty Program" is not "a witch-hunt", or "a project in which anybody's civil liberties will be violated in any form whatsoever," will have been "cleared", if all goes well.

If it sees the light of print, this story can, in a sense, be considered official. No misquotes. False impressions. Misinterpretations. But right.

Hoover believes that there has been "considerable misrepresentation in recent weeks on the Federal employee loyalty program," and thus he was more than willing to make known his views.

To this end, and with his characteristic zeal to bring the truth to the reading mind of the nation, this reporter was invited by Hoover, not to go back to Boston to write his story, but to sit down at F. B. I. headquarters and write it on-the-spot.

ANDREW K. ADAIR

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

That action thrilled the nation. Said one F. B. I. official, who requested that his name not be mentioned, "It went off like clock work. Almost a thing of beauty. Those people had absolutely no rights under the law, either. They could have been clamped into jail for good. But the good thing about this democracy—and I'm in a position to know it—is that Congress passed special legislation giving these people certain rights. A board was created. It reviewed every one of their cases. Some were jailed. Others paroled. Many sent away free, cleared, innocent."

But is Hoover, possibly, and to the point, compiling dossiers nowadays on known, and not so well-known, men and women who belong to the Communist party and who are bent on overthrowing our government, by force, if necessary?

Nobody will say. After all. But you answer it. Don't you think it's an easy question?

Concerning the "Loyalty Program," Hoover stressed that it was "initiated by an executive order, which was implemented by a Congressional appropriation of funds, and the Civil Service Commission does have the basic responsibility in administering the terms of the President's executive order.

"The bureau's activities are of a twofold nature. In the first instance, we are required to check the names of all Federal employees through our files, both investigative and fingerprint, and furnish any derogatory information to the appropriate government agencies.

"In the event the file check reflects evidence of disloyalty, the bureau is then required to make a full field investigation of the character, associations and loyalty of the Federal employee. Upon the completion of the investigation, our reports are then forwarded to the Civil Service Commission and subsequently by the Civil Service Commission to the employing agency.

He was urged to pound F. B. I. officials with questions; to dig into the ramifications of the F. B. I.'s responsibility under this program; and to clear up objections that might exist in the minds of the readers as to whether this program will be merely a will-o'-the-wisp jaunt, or a clear-cut offensive movement against a hidden enemy within our borders.

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33 ISLAND STREET BOSTON, MASS.

Thus the Boston Sunday Post is able to present an authentic article written on-the-spot at the mammoth F. B. I. headquarters on Pennsylvania Avenue here in Washington.

Ordinarily, it is not news how a reporter does or does not obtain his stuff, and this background has been briefed-in only to make certain that this is not construed as "just another newspaper story".

This, by the way, is a beautiful, seven-story building on Pennsylvania Avenue, and investigators, clerks and technicians are working long and tedious hours on the newest phase of their work.

Everybody is polite—"The Boss" insists on that—and the offices, despite the intensity of the work, remain as neat as a pin. The building is a mecca for sightseers, and scores of them swarm through the corridors under the chaperonage of trained guides.

People look at exhibits recalling G-Man exploits of the past —the capture of Dillinger, the rounding up of "Pretty Boy" Floyd, the smashing of a Nazi spy ring, the apprehension of a German agent, the taking into custody of a potential saboteur—and they seem to leave with a pleasant feeling—content, thank God, that the over-all police work of their country rests in good and capable and fair hands.

Up on the fifth floor here, surrounded by a staff of alert assistants, sits the man whose keen brain makes the F. B. I. function as smoothly as it does.

It was J. Edgar Hoover, who, acting on a secret order from President Roosevelt in 1939, laid the plans that ultimately resulted in the entrapment of more than 5000 alien suspects only a few days following Pearl Harbor.

"The responsibility for evaluating the results of our investigation falls upon the hearing boards of the respective government agencies, as well as upon the appeals board of the Civil Service Commission, which is designed to lay down the broad, general policies and procedures for the handling of cases involving disloyalty."

When the F. B. I. makes a "field check," the agent is ordered to obtain only facts. "We are fact-finders, not guessers," said Hoover in his outspoken manner.

CARL STENGEL

Patrolman, Boston Police Dept.
(Retired)
Past Secretary
Police Square Club of Massachusetts

If John Doe is reported by an acquaintance to be a communist, the agent cannot, obviously, accept such testimony as the gospel truth. He will check and re-check the allegation, and if he finds no evidence of John Doe's communistic activity, he will so report.

Simultaneously, he will file a statement to the effect that such-and-such a person claimed John Doe was a communist.

In other words, taking this hypothetical case, the agent will report two facts; that a certain person said John Doe was a communist; that he, the agent, could find no evidence to substantiate the charge.

With government employees, moreover, "the overwhelming majority" are expected to be found completely true-blue Americans by the F. B. I.

"Naturally," said Hoover simply, adding, "We have been ordered to ferret out fascists, Communists and other subversives among the 1,800,000 Federal employees. True, it is perfectly legal to belong to the Communist party. But it is no longer legal to belong to the Communist party and work for the Federal government. Futhermore, many communists will not admit they are communists. We obtain, as always, all the evidence that we can, and present it dispassionately and objectively.

"Our files are full of cases in which we have proved beyond a question of a doubt that a man or woman accused of a specific crime is innocent. Yes, we frequently go out and prove people innocent. No person's civil liberties will be violated by the F. B. I. at any time. If I hear of any agent infringing upon any person's rights, I will either have that agent expelled from the service, or see that the necessary administrative changes are effected to remedy the condition."

Hoover said that he feels that "some of the opposition which has arisen to the loyalty program in many instances comes from well-meaning, but misinformed persons. Others who raise the cry of 'witch hunts' and the bugaboo of 'Gestapo' have more sinister reasons. They are determined to smear the F. B. I. and what it stands for—the preservation of our democratic way of life. There is no cause for hysteria except on the part of those who have something to conceal."

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Bending over backwards to be doubly sure that Boston Sunday Post readers would realize that he is trying to carry out his orders in a fair-minded way, the F. B. I. chieftain even explained that "although a man belongs to a communistic organization, he is not necessarily a communist."

That man, he went on, could have joined that organization, for example, prior to the time it became red-hued. Such a person, Hoover declared, might well be found to be entirely innocent of any disloyalty to this country.

"If a person rather innocently becomes a member of what later develops into a communist front organization because he likes the name of it or of its stated objectives, and if there is no other derogatory information in his case, I certainly, will not have the F. B. I. report as a fact that that man is disloyal to the government of the United States.

"Please understand me. We are after facts. Not what a man thinks. He can think anything. But deeds, actions—facts. Evidence. We stress that point in all phases of our endeavors. We bring our agents in here from time to time and drill into them over and over again. 'You are fact-finders, not guessers'. That is why when we take a case into court, we usually win. Ninety-seven per cent of the time. We wouldn't have that record if we played hunches, would we? Let me repeat again, there is many a person whom we have proved to be innocent. And our files are full of letters from defense lawyers complimenting us on the impartial way in which we presented our facts in court."

Fifty-two-year-old John Edgar Hoover, born New Year's Day, in Washington, 1895, is as American as a traveling salesman. As a boy, he sang in the Lutheran church choir and served at the altar. Later he taught Sunday school, a step in the path he expected to follow in the ministry.

But high school debating turned him toward a legal career; the study of law led to a job in the Department of Justice and then it was only a step to appointment, at the age of 29, as director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, later to be famous around the world as "The F. B. I."

He took over an organization which only shortly before had been investigated by the Senate on charges of inefficiency

HARRINGTON B. WYAND

Lieutenant, Boston Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

and misfeasance, and in 10 years soared to fame by aiding in the solution of the kidnapping of baby Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Jr., the most publicized crime in an era of notorious gangsterism.

Hoover and his men virtually ended that era. The kidnapping of the noted aviator's son occurred March 1, 1932, and Bruno Richard Hauptmann, later executed as the killer-abductor, was arrested September 19, 1934—a triumph for the meticulous method of operation in which the F. B. I. had been drilled.

By 1938, having seen his men shoot it out with gangsters such as John Dillinger, Alvin Karpis, Roger Touhy, Basil Banghhart, the Barkers, "Baby Face" Nelson—to mention a few who went to morgues or prisons—Hoover was able to say that organized gang experts were through.

But he shortly took on a bigger foe, as co-ordinator of the nation's counter-espionage and anti-sabotage work when the war began in Europe in 1939.

His men sent scores of German spies to prison in the next three years, but no incident caught the public fancy so completely as his announcement in June, 1942, that the F. B. I. had arrested eight Germans, highly trained and equipped as spies and saboteurs, who had landed on America's East coast from two submarines.

The eight Nazis were given a secret military trial in which Hoover participated daily as an aide to the Attorney General, one of the two Presidentially-appointed prosecutors. Six of the eight were electrocuted in the District of Columbia jail, one was sentenced to life at hard labor and one was sentenced to 30 years.

He has made law enforcement a profession and a science. He is not satisfied to stop with the F. B. I. in his campaign for improvement in crime fighting technique, but he has spread it over the world, particularly at home.

The identification file here, started with a few hundred thousand fingerprints gathered from Federal prison files, now has more than 105,000,000 prints, many of them originally taken by the armed forces during the war.

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So, G-Man Hoover is well equipped to combat the communists and other subversives for whom he has no use. Colorfully, explosively, he long ago dubbed the communists as "red fascists."

"Ours is the strongest democracy," he wrote some months ago, "and we have more freedom and higher standards of living than any other people on earth. Yet our government—which has stood for almost two centuries as a beacon light amid world conflicts—is a central target of attack for the red fascists in the United States. It stands between them and world revolution."

Hoover underscored the fact that communists are campaigning vigorously in America at the present time in an effort to bring their total membership here up to 100,000. "This figure does not reveal their actual strength," he said. "Conservatively," interjected Hoover, "there are an estimated 1,000,000 others who in one way or another aid the Communist party."

Significantly, he said that it is the duty of every citizen to insist on having public servants whose first loyalty is to our way of life. One disloyal employee can do much harm by acts of disloyalty or by indoctrinating others, he continued, with a Marxian philosophy.

"There is some sentiment," said Hoover, "that a communist has as much right to a government job as a Democrat or a Republican, because the communists claim to be a political party.

"In reality, they are connected with an international criminal conspiracy. They are no more a political party than was the German-American Bund."

Hoover believes the churches of America should know and tell their people what, in the words of Lenin, communism thinks of them. Hoover reminds people that Lenin taught: "We must combat religion—this is the ABC of all materialism, and consequently Marxism. . . . Down with religion. . . . Long live atheism. . . . The dissemination of atheist views is our chief task."

Fortunately for the United States, Hoover knows, there aren't too many communists in the American government.

WILLIAM G. HEYD

Chief, Belmont Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

But as he sits behind his desk at one end of his spacious office—it must be 15 yards long—he gives the impression of saying, "It is wrong that even a single person, dedicated to the proposition that the American way of life should perish, is on the Federal pay roll."

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Only One Little Miss

The girl was young, only 17—and looked like any high school girl, except that she was prettier than most. Her eyes were blue and clear, and her corn-colored hair hung in soft waves to her shoulders. She was smiling, a rather shy, uncertain smile.

Her name was Mary Elizabeth Smith, address unknown, and she was a long way from a classroom a few weeks ago. She was in court at Lincoln, England, waiting to be sentenced for thievery.

Mary Elizabeth was a pickpocket, a super-pickpocket, in a way, because of her extraordinary skill at it. She was so expert—and so elusive—that police and authorities believed a whole gang of thieves was at work.

When the truth finally came out, they were amazed that one lone person—and especially a young girl—could have committed the series of robberies that took place over the whole of England.

Mary Elizabeth didn't start her life of crime until a few months ago when she went to a holiday camp at Skegness and found herself short of money. She started picking pockets the way another girl might try smoking her first cigarette—just to try it—and discovered she was a natural for it. Her slender fingers could slip into a pocket and extract the contents in one nimble movement without the victim ever suspecting it.

It wasn't until she made the mistake of trying to pick the pocket of a detective that Mary Elizabeth was caught, and then she was sent to a remand home in Lincoln as a nurse-trainee. Within three days she had escaped from the home and the supervision of the probation officer. From then on, she led the police a chase.

First she went to Cleethorpes, then north to Grimsby, and Filey, Yorks, on the northeast coast, then down to London and from there to a succession of towns on the south coast. In each place she stayed only a few days, plying her "trade", and then moved on before the police had a chance to catch up with her. In her wanderings, she piled up a record of some sort—in those two months she had robbed 91 people, and not one of them could give a description of the culprit.

FRANK L. WARREN

Probation Officer

and

Instructor, Thompson Island Band

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

She was so deft in her operations—and so innocent in her youthful appearance—that on one occasion she actually pilfered several precious food packages from an unsuspecting line of shopping housewives.

She might never have been caught again if a wallet hadn't dropped out of her coat to the sidewalk—not 10 feet away from a man whose pocket she had just picked. He saw it fall, recognized it as his own, and held her until police arrived. (At police headquarters, she readily admitted her wrongdoings.)

Mr. Justice Oliver, at Lincoln Assizes said he felt that Mary Elizabeth's tour of thievery was in some respects like a two-month binge. "Once started," he said, "she couldn't stop, and one robbery led to another. But in view of her youth and her apparent penitence, I am going to give her one more chance."

The judge is putting Mary Elizabeth on probation again and sending her to a trade school where she can learn something useful.

"And this time, I'll stay," she says. "I really want to be honest from now on."

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"The Widow's Mite"

BY IRMIS JOHNSON

A little man overwhelmed by a burden of debt and remorse, and still suffering from a gunshot wound in his back, wept quietly as he sat hunched over in a chair in the New York Legal Aid Society offices.

"I thought I'd be going away for a long time for what I did," he said. "But now everyone is so good—and this money from the Widow's Mite, it will help a lot."

The man couldn't have been more surprised, or grateful, if a miracle had happened to him.

Daniel Walpole, 34-year-old moving van helper, had known nothing but black despair since the moment when, after a few drinks, he rashly kicked in a shop window and took a shiny new tricycle as a belated Christmas present for his three-year-old Danny.

Now the future didn't seem quite so dark.

He had been saved from long-term punishment by the leniency of a Felony Court judge who had reduced the charges from burglary to petty larceny and paroled the defendant in the custody of his wife.

In addition, his faith in human nature had been restored by the generosity of a New York widow whose sympathetic understanding of human needs and human frailties had led her to establish a small welfare fund to help clients that Legal Aid attorneys believe deserve another chance. Like the woman in the Biblical story who gave two mites while rich men were giving fortunes, this modern benefactress doesn't hesitate to offer assistance because her resources are not figured in millions.

The Walpoles, who have five children, were faced with an eviction notice and Daniel's $45-a-week pay stopped when he got into trouble. So they were given the first donation from the Widow's Mite.

Wiping his eyes on his wife's handkerchief after his first outburst of gratitude, Daniel Walpole tred to explain how he got himself into his unfortunate predicament.

CHARLES BAILEY

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

"The day I took the bike," he said, "six men had been laid off in our company. How did I know that I wouldn't be next and never get a chance to buy the kid anything?

"I went to a neighborhood bar and grill and with some tip money I'd got that day I bought me some drinks. I began to think about that little tricycle I'd seen in a shop.

If I'd meant to steal dough I wouldn't have made so much noise. I just went up and kicked in the glass. Then when the cop chased me I wouldn't have stopped for anything. So when I didn't stop he shot me."

Pulling a crumpled newspaper story and photograph from his pocket he said, "I kept this picture of my little boy under my pillow at Bellevue Hospital, and every time I looked at it it almost drove me crazy. I've sure learned my lesson."

If this proves to be true the Widow's Mite fund will have served the purpose for which it was intended; to give that first little bit of financial relief that sometimes keeps an offender from becoming a repeater.

It was the story of Esther Hetherington, a 23-year-old mother who left her four-month-old baby girl in a bar one morning, that first touched the heart of the founder of this fund.

A newspaper story quoted a magistrate's comment about Esther's plight: "I feel she is an underprivileged person. The rich go gallivanting all over Europe and leave their children and get away with it."

Filled with sympathy for the young mother who, unable to raise $500 bail, was in jail at the time, the anonymous widow enlisted financial aid from some of her friends and got in touch with Benjamin Schmier, the Legal Aid counsel assigned to Ether Hetherington.

She offered help for the girl.

"That's wonderful," said the surprised attorney. "I have 1000 Esther Hetheringtons every year. I wish something could be done for all of them."

"Maybe something can be done," the generous woman thought as she was on her way to the Legal Aid offices to interview Esther Hetherington, who had been paroled by the court.

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The charge had been reduced to a misdemeanor and her husband agreed to support her and the baby.

"All I want now is to get my baby back," Esther said. She still must prove that she will be a good mother before that can happen.

With Esther Hetherington's immediate financial problems settled, Mr. Schmier started telling of the many cases where a few dollars could have helped so much.

One young man arrested for robbery with a gun was convicted in spite of his plea that the whole thing was a frame-up by a fellow with whom he'd had a dispute in a pool hall. Because Legal Aid attorneys believed the defendant innocent they checked all of the complainant's testimony and found it false. In the meantime the jailed man lost his job and didn't even have a place to go when he was released.

Money for a week's rent, Mr. Schmier explained, would have been a blessing to this man.

A pretty little girl from the South had come up to New York to be married—or so she believed. Her boy friend showered her with expensive gifts, including a beautiful fur coat. Ho wcould she know these goods were stolen, until she was arrested for having them in her possession?

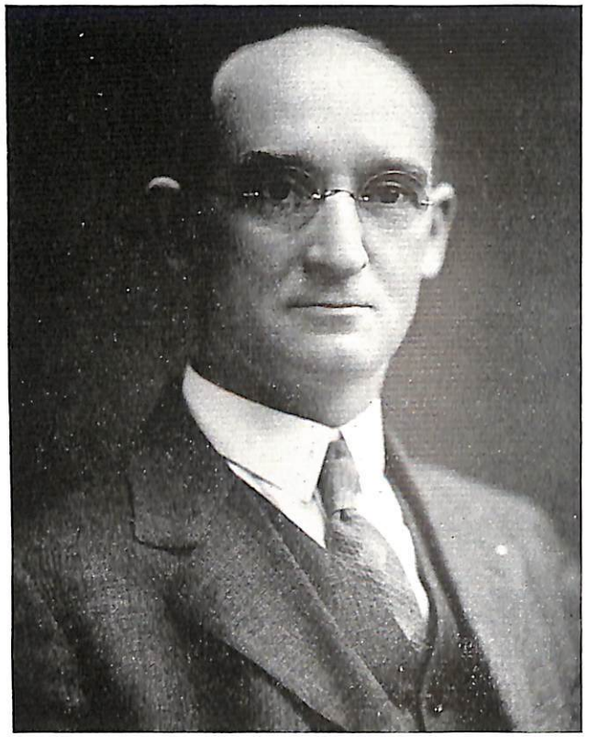
Being very much in love, the girl confessed to thefts she hadn't committed because she believed the boy might be accused. Eventually she was exonerated, but she was penniless and homeless until her parents were induced to send for her.

These are only two of thousands of cases that are typical of those the Widow's Mite fund aims to help.

The fund's plan is not pretentious, and Legal Aid attorneys are to use the money as they see fit, to ease poverty and hunger for their clients, and thus help prevent repentant offenders from returning to crime.

Commenting on its usefulness, Judge Martin V. Callagy, Attorney-in-Chief of the Legal Aid Society, said:

"The Widow's Mite, so generously contributed in the Walpole case, has its source in a sympathetic understanding of the problems that confront everyday people. However, the Legal



WILLIAM A. SAYWARD

Lieutenant, Boston Police Dept.
(Retired)

Auditor

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Aid Society's civil and criminal cases number over 41,000. Unlike most law offices, where such a situation would assure prosperity, the more clients the Legal Aid Society has, the more money is required.

"Most of the Society's funds are received from the legal profession in the City of New York and from a small, but continuously loyal group of laymen."

The Legal Aid Society needs the Widow's Mite—and a great deal more—to meet its aim of giving all who come for help an equal chance at justice.

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"Failure of A Fool-Proof Fraud"

BY WARREN HALL

When Charles McLaughlin came out of the Army at the end of 1945 and went to his job with the Civil Service Commission in Washington, he found that his salary of $3640 a year didn't stretch very far.

For a while he drove a taxi during his spare hours, but the combined intake looked infinitesimal beside the thousands upon thousands of dollars that he handled daily as an adjudicator in the Death Claims Section of the commission's office.

There must be, he decided, some fool-proof way to shunt some of those dollars into his own pocket.

He finally found one which struck him as being the perfect plan to rob the government.

It worked, but not very long.

Charlie McLaughlin was well liked and generally respected at his office. He was, in fact, the picture of respectability—polite, refined, neat, inconspicuous, bespectacled. His job was to pass final judgment on death claims after they had been approved by a group of examiners who were under his direction.

Among the organizations whose claims were handled by the commission was the Veterans Administration. One day last August, after McLaughlin had been working late each evening, his secretary laid on his desk the papers concerning a Dr. Charles H. Willis of New York City who, it said there, had been employed at various V. A. offices since 1918.

Records showed specified amounts had been deducted from Dr. Willis' paychecks toward retirement. It is those deductions, plus interest, which go to a beneficiary on the death of a government employe. The doctor's beneficiary, according to a form dated May 19, 1942, was a nephew, also Charles H. Willis, whose address was P. O. Box 1153, Washington.

In due time a claim arrived from Nephew Willis for death benefits. A copy of the death certificate attested to the uncle's

HARRY C. JACKSON

Patrolman, Metropolitan Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

demise. McLaughlin attached it to the other papers and handed the sheaf to an examiner.

"Everything seems to be in perfect order," he said, "but you'd better go over it just to be sure."

The examiner found nothing wrong, and computed the beneficiary's share at $5,982.07. McLaughlin said that sounded all right to him and passed it on through. The check was made out on September 23, almost in record time. It was sent to P. O. Box 1153.

The following Saturday a man who identified himself as Charles H. Willis opened a checking account in Washington's Second National Bank. The deposit was $5,982.07. He seemed very pleased.

In a week or two McLaughlin again found it necessary to work late at night, but his fellow employes were not very sympathetic.

"There isn't anything that he couldn't finish during the day if he wanted to," one of them pointed out. "He's just trying to impress somebody."

When a new sheaf of papers referring to the death of another Veterans Administration doctor was laid on his desk the next day, McLaughlin put it through the regular channels. After all, such doctors were not technically under Civil Service administration, and the handling of their death claims was strictly a routine matter for the most part.

"Say, Bill," an examiner said to the man at the next desk, "didn't you have a claim a couple of weeks ago for a Veterans Administration doctor in New York with a nephew who had a Washington Post Office box? Here's another one just like it. It's funny that two like that should come so close together. Let's send for the file on yours."

In a few minutes two files were placed side by side on McLaughlin's desk.

"Take a look at this, Charlie," the examiner said. "Two cases exactly alike just a couple of weeks apart. The names are different but the writing looks identical."

McLaughlin looked at them both and laughed quickly.

"I don't see much resemblance," he said. "You're just

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imagining things. Occupational fatigue, they called it in the army."

But the furore about the twin death claims failed to subside, particularly when the Willis file vanished during the night. The FBI was called in. It discovered quickly that neither of the two doctors was listed in any government records except those in the Civil Service claims division. It also learned that nephew Willis, when he rented the post office box, had given his address as 1907 H. S., N. W., Washington. Inspection of the office records showed that McLaughlin had formerly lived there.

When McLaughlin's wife called the office to report that he was ill and unable to work, the FBI men obtained a photo of him from the cab company by which he had been employed. Bank officials identified it as the man who had opened the Willis account.

That was enough. A warrant was issued for his immediate arrest.

Mrs. McLaughlin was almost hysterical when the government agents arrived with their questions.

"I don't know where he is," she said. "I wish you'd find him for me. He's been acting very strange, and yesterday he just got in his car and drove off without a word."

She said he had been born 33 years before in Elkins, W. Va., and that his brother still lived there. That seemed like the best clue.

Six days later a man with his hat pulled low stopped about dusk at the Elkins taxi stand and conversed briefly with one of the drivers.

An FBI agent was stationed outside the home of McLaughlin's brother when the taxi driver, in accordance with his instructions, delivered a note at 3 A.M.

It said:

"When you receive this, I'll be at the bend at the foot of Shavers Mountain."

They found McLaughlin there.

He was seated in his parked car and he was dead, with the end of a hose from the exhaust pipe held in his mouth.

HARRY J. AINSWORTH

Former Chief, Wilmington Police Dept.

Court Officer, Fourth District Court, Woburn

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

Lovelorn Girls Still Prey of Seers

Despite all the current talk about depleted ranks of "husband-material," any enterprising American girl can find her mate.

What is more, he will be tall-dark-and-handsome, rich, a world traveler. He will own a yacht. The jewels he gives her will be the envy of other women. Her clothes will be soignee—and expensive. They will make her friends bite their nails in despair. She will winter in Palm Beach, spend her summers in the mountains.

Her adoring husband will—No! this is not a dream, nor the beginning of a fiction yarn.

This is the way it works.

A pretty girl, who in normal times, would have so many beaux she could toss some to her poor relations, now faces a shortage of admirers. The postman doesn't even ring once—nor does the telephone. Marriage brokers have upped their fees 40 per cent, so you can judge for yourself the seriousness of the situation.

She is just as attractive as ever, just as gay, just as good a companion, but—the ranks of husband material are thinned out lots of greybeards, but not many youths her own age.

Those suitable for her went off to war, and didn't come back. They got lonely and married foreign girls. WACs, Red Cross girls or canteen hostesses.

So this lonely young woman, who stayed at home during the conflict, consults a fortuneteller, a crystal gazer, a palm reader, an astrologist, or a seeress of one kind or another. This optimistic soul gazes into her cards, her crystal ball, a teacup or her consultant's palm, and promptly hands out the good news.

Across the table from her sits the lovely, lively girl, brown eyes sparkling with expectancy and hope, eager, intense, pink ears alert to hear the glad tidings.

Well, what would such a girl want to hear? Not that she is going to wander through life alone; live with grandma and

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knit afghans or play nurse to sister Ellen's brace of little darlings.

No, indeed! Nor does the seeress vision this girl yearning for a drab sort of fellow, with sparse hair, stooped shoulders and bifocal glasses.

Oh, NO! The seeress, gazing intently into her crystal ball, for example, sees the model lover, the romantic type, the kind of man that is every young girl's dream at one time or another in her life.

Is he short? No. Tall? Of course! Is he fair, on the wishy-washy order? No! No! a thousand times no! So he's dark, exotic looking, a modern Valentino? You bet! Are his eyes weak? Has he sinus trouble? Don't be silly! So, then, he's tall, dark and handsome, robust as a football halfback.

Can you picture this stunning creature bending over a ledger scrawling figures all day long, squinting through thick-lensed glasses, weighing flounders at a fish market, or taking tickets on a train? Don't be funny, folks!

Does the pretty girl who wants to pull aside the vail of the future see herself in an automat with her handsome husband? Or in a cafeteria, riding on subways or buses? Living in a little bungalow in Queens? Going to the "movies" once a month? Spending a vacation week in Red Bank, N. J., in summer?

Oho! That's a laugh. She sees this wonder man of hers on the Gold Coast. He is a successful real estate operator, banker, broker, architect. He has made a fortune, although he's only 25. His dad, a Pittsburgh millionaire, has left him a few millions.

He takes his loved one out for charcoal-broiled steaks, caviar tidbits, champagne. He sends her orchids, and roses for every room in the house. They ride in long, pale blue cars heavy with cromium.

Every birthday and wedding anniversary finds the pretty girl, now the adored wife, opening a velvet box and lifting from it a new string of pearls, a diamond bracelet, emerald ring. Her clothes-closets are filled with shimmering gowns, smartly tailored suits, a few mink coats, hats at $50 a feather.

JOHN T. HARRINGTON

Chief, Phillipston Police Dept.

Police Square Club of Massachusetts

She may get all this for 50 cents, a dollar, or at top rates, for $10. It all depends on seeress' rates.

Customs vary in different countries. Oddly enough, in Allahabad, India, instead of girls buying good news about a future husband, men sometimes sell their wives! A recent news item reports that Tej Singh and his wife Mitola had been living together unhappily when finally the husband sold his troublesome mate to a friend, Mala Singh.

During times of stress soothsayers flourish. During the war every night club had a clairvoyant as a feature. All of them were as busy as bees. Wistful, attractive girls sat before them in smoky, noisy settings, hands outstretched.

They asked: "Do you see a marriage in my hand? Is my boy friend going to be shipped soon? Will he be safe?"

Two women dominated the trade in New York city. They called themselves "Chirognomists". One of them confided in folks that she had learned her trade "from an old Chinee" in the Hawaiian Islands.

Sometimes curious things happened in the line of prognostication that had nothing to do with handsome, rich husbands for pretty, lonely girls. Once a mild-mannered man consulted one of the palmists, and she told him that he "ought to be famous and a millionaire," but, oddly enough, she could not find "a real profession" for him.

He was "Hellzapoppin" Ole Olsen.

Today the crystal-gazers, tea-leaf readers, gypsies, palmists, clairvoyants and card-tellers are working overtime again. A postwar period offers many problems.

During the war, in one small Rhode Island town, a woman mill-worker conducted a lucrative business as palmist. Sixty or more girls consulted her every night at $1 per reading. They sat in her small parlor from 7 o'clock at night until 2 o'clock in the morning, awaiting their turn. Usually the palmist offered reassurance to her clients. Yes, he, the lad in uniform, would come home uninjured, still desperately in love with the girl he left behind. But, alas! it did not always turn out that way.

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Today the picture has changed. The lad is back home but married to someone else, the girl he met along the way.

Now, with eligible men as scarce as soapflakes, what the girls want to hear is an answer to the question: "Do I meet a new man soon?"

From coast to coast, the peerers-into-the-future are gazing into the cards, their crystal globes, the tea leaves, or into the lines of hands, searching for a promising king of hearts—or diamonds.

Palmists in Florida boldly hang out their shingles—outside the city limits. These signs have huge palms painted upon them, and they notify the passing throngs that "Madame tells all." But in Detroit recently, when a seeress told Patrolman George Maranusk: "You're going to take a trip," he replied, "Right! And you're going with me." Whereupon, he fetched her to police headquarters.

Palmistry existed far back in prehistoric times. It was a common practice in China 3000 B.C. It was also well-known in ancient Greek literature. At the present time palmistry is practiced in nearly all parts of China, India, Syria, Egypt, to say nothing of the way it flourishes in the United States.

In the olden days, in Europe and the Orient, palmists plied their trade in cafes, just as they do today in this country in night spots and supper clubs. They also reaped a harvett among the Arabs. Near the close of the 18th century a palmist foretold the downfall of Napoleon.

It is seldom that a young man consults a fortuneteller to learn whether or not he will soon meet "a beautiful girl." Most men laugh their heads off at the idea of plucking a mate out of a glass globe, a teacup or the palm of one's hand.

So, dream on fair maid! It may be exciting to hear about a handsome husband on the horizon. But it's silly to pay cash for non-delivery. Especially when you can get a nice lad for nothing at an Elks' dance, a church picnic, or by simply asking Brother Bob to invite in some male friends for a spaghetti supper come Saturday night.

CLARENCE E. HYDE

Sergeant, Boston Police Dept.

(Retired)

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Policemen In The Pulpit

Just because the cop on the corner is big and burly and snarls at you when you jump the light, don't think that he's merely a muscle-man who thinks about nothing but seeing that you obey the laws. He may be worrying about your soul, too.

More than one policeman has turned pastor, like 43-year-old John A. Parsons, a New York patrolman with almost 20 years on the force, who recently completed the first and most difficult step toward accomplishing his life-long ambition of entering the ministry.

In the pink of condition, a trim 188 pounds at 5 feet, 11 inches. Patrolman Parsons was ordained a deacon a few weeks ago at ceremonies marking the close of the 149th New York Methodist Conference, while his wife and 12-year-old daughter proudly looked on.

Seven years ago, Parsons set a rigorous schedule for himself, devoting all his holidays and time off to study.

By the time he retires from the force in about a year, he hopes to have completed most of the requirements for ordination as an elder and is looking forward to a pastor assignment.

Since a guardian of the law must deal so much with unpleasant specimens of humanity and with the seamier sides of life, with little time—and, one would think, little inclination—to ponder on spiritual problems, it might seem like a big jump from being a cop to becoming a minister of the gospel.

Actually, however, Parsons declares that his experiences on the force were largely responsible for his decision.

"Seeing men and women in ordeals that revealed their yearning for God strengthened the wish I had as a boy to enter the ministry," he said. "I don't feel I've wasted those years on the force. Now I feel that with my first-hand knowledge of the weaknesses and sins of human beings, perhaps I can give understanding and practical help to those who need it."

Another man who successfully represented both the civil and ecclesiastical laws was Pittsburgh's Rev. Arnold E. Allerton. A hard-hitting six-footer, Allerton made his living on the police force as a bailiff, being responsible for the evidence taken in arrests and raids, and preached from the pulpit of his church on Sundays.

Allerton would climb down out of the pulpit and smash sin with a sledge-hammer—literally.

When the evidence that had served its purpose piled too high for storage, he would roll up his sleeves, pick up his hammer and start swinging on the liquor bottles, pin-ball machines and other confiscated contraband.

Naturally, Allerton's double role of pastor-patrolman gave him great personal satisfaction—and certainly made a dramatic illustration for his preachings against sin.

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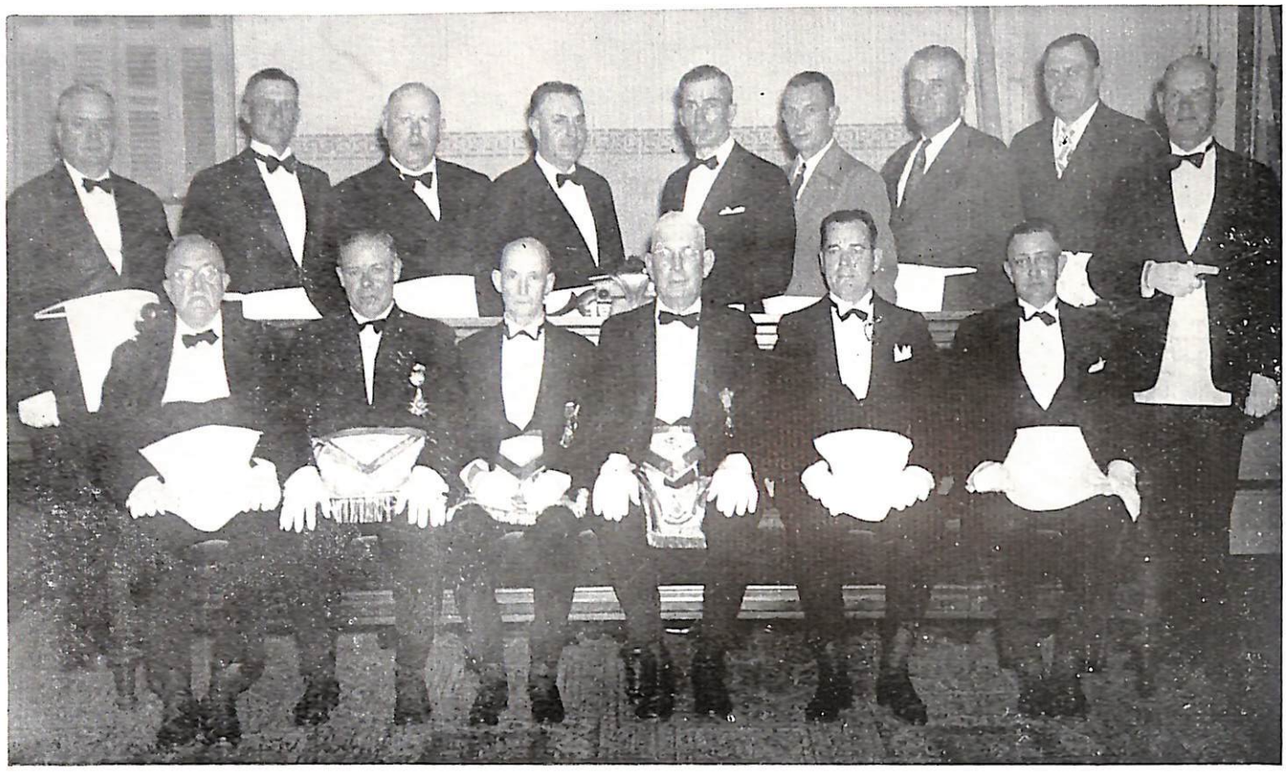

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Apart, yet not afar;
Only a thin veil hangs between
The pathway where we are,
And "God keep watch 'ween thee and me."
This is my prayer;
He looks thy way. He looketh mine,
And keeps us near.
And when the history is finally written, when the toll is at last complete, it can more truly be said:
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ZONIS MANUFACTURING CO., 169 Bridge St., Cambridge, Mass.

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